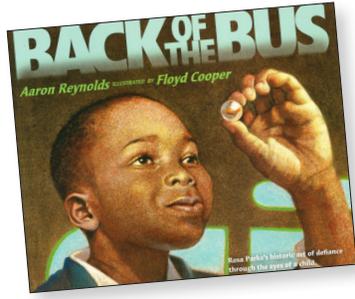




Quotes



Back of the Bus,
written by Aaron Reynolds
illustrated by Floyd Cooper

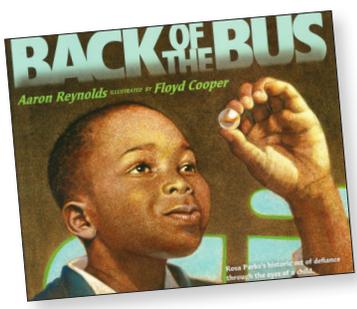
More people sit,
and the air ain't warm no more.
She's gettin' hauled off to jail or worse,
and I'm watchin' out the window.
Mama too, with them long tired eyes.



& Notes



Quotes



Back of the Bus,
written by Aaron Reynolds
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“There you go, Rosa Parks, stirrin’ up a nest of hornets,”
Mama’s sayin’ in her to-herself voice.
But I hear.
I see somethin’ too—
she’s got Mrs. Parks’ lightnin’-storm eyes now.



& Notes



RETELL: Mama whispers to herself that Rosa Parks has caused trouble.

BACKGROUND: I’m thinking about how Rosa Parks’ actions would definitely have caused trouble or conflict, especially during this time. Mama is mad at Rosa for causing trouble. She even said she was “stirrin’ up a nest of hornets.”

EMOTION: The air of hostility is getting strong. All that anger would cause this moment to get more intense, even scary.

SETTING: Now I’m thinking about all those angry people looking out the bus window. I see Mama staring out the window with the same intense and angry eyes as Rosa did.

QUESTION: Wait! She has the same lightnin’-storm eyes as Mrs. Parks...? And it says “now.” Huh? I’m wondering what caused her eyes to become storming now?

PERSPECTIVE: Oh wait! Mama is African American and so is Mrs. Parks. They’re on the same side. If Mrs. Parks is angry and doesn’t want to be treated like this anymore, I’m starting to think maybe Mama is, too.

GENRE: This has got me thinking about what I know about stories, and there is always a high point of action or emotion. The climax or breaking point usually causes a major shift in mood and tone. Oh, it’s Mama! She’s experiencing a change. She’s feeling like Rosa Parks *now*. She has the same eyes.



COMBINE & SYNTHESIZE



I’m realizing mama’s fed up, too. She admits Rosa has started something here, but the hornet’s nest *had* to be stirred. Mama agrees it was time to stand up and do something.



Quotes



& Notes