

I SURVIVED

BOOK CLUB

Name: _____

I Survived The Attacks of September 11, 2001



CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS AND PERSONAL RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT

(SUITABLE FOR NOVEL AND GRAPHIC NOVEL VERSIONS)

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS:

1. Who is Uncle Benny? When does Lucas get close to him? What does he teach Lucas?

2. What happened to Dad in the warehouse fire? What do his scars look like? What does Lucas think is the worst thing that the fire did to him?

3. Why does Lucas go to New York City by himself on the morning of 9/11? What does he want to do there?

4. What interrupts Lucas and Uncle Benny when they are talking about Lucas's concussions? What do they hear and see? What happens next? What does Uncle Benny do?

5. After the plane goes into the World Trade Center, what does Lucas realize about the Towers? What does he realize about firefighters?



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CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS AND PERSONAL RESPONSE ASSIGNMENT *(CONTINUED)*

6. What does Lucas's dad like most about being a firefighter? What does he say about working together?

7. What does Lucas do when he's alone at the firehouse? Why does he do this?

8. How can Lucas tell which people on the street are coming from the Towers? What does he notice about them?

9. What does Lucas see when he and Dad come out of the store? What does the scene on the street make him think of?

10. Why do Lucas and his dad want to finish the model of the Seagrave? When do they work on it? What do they plan to do with it?



ANSWERS

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS:

1. Uncle Benny is Lucas's dad's best friend from Ladder 177, a firehouse in New York City. Lucas gets to know him after Lucas's dad is hurt in a warehouse fire. Uncle Benny teaches Lucas all about football.
2. Dad was badly burned in an explosion. His scars are bright red and lumpy, like raw hamburger. But Lucas thinks the worst of what the fire did to him was take away his easy smile and booming laugh, and turn him quiet so that he barely talks at all.
3. On the morning of 9/11, Lucas goes to New York City by himself because he wants to see Uncle Benny. He wants to talk to him about the fact that he's not allowed to play football ever again.
4. When Lucas and Benny are talking, a plane interrupts their conversation. They see it flying very low overhead, its engine screaming. The plane crashes into the World Trade Center, and Uncle Benny calls dispatch to report it.
5. Lucas realizes that there are hundreds of people trapped in the Towers. He also realizes that firefighters like his dad and Uncle Benny are going to try to save them, no matter how dangerous it is.
6. Lucas's dad likes the fact that every firefighter has a job to do. He says, "If you don't work together, you don't put out the fire."
7. When Lucas is alone at the firehouse, he clears the table and starts doing the dishes. He does this because wants to do something to help.
8. Lucas can tell because some of them are soaked in sweat and have stunned looks on their faces. He notices that some of the women are barefoot, having kicked off or lost their shoes. He also notices that no one is carrying a purse or briefcase.
9. Lucas sees destruction, including twisted steel beams and big chunks of concrete. The scene makes him think of a book he'd read on World War II, with pictures of cities that had been bombed and burned to the ground.
10. Lucas and his dad want to finish the Seagrave model because the real Seagrave is wrecked. They work on it at night, when they can't sleep. They plan to bring it to the firehouse.

PERSONAL RESPONSE QUESTIONS:

Answers will vary.