



Deafness: Silent Night (Book) Est. Time: 2 Weeks Reading/45 Minutes Class Time

Synopsis

By society's standards, former FBI agent Sue Thomas is a huge success: She is a former skating champion, tour guide, and pianist. There is even a TV show based on her life (Sue Thomas: F.B.Eye). However, her journey to success was filled with much heartache, loneliness, and obstacles created by her deafness. Thomas narrates this memoir in which she describes her life from the time she was eighteen months old and lost her hearing until her resignation from the FBI.

Activity

Read the following book and be prepared to discuss the questions below in class:

Title: Silent Night (1990)

Author: Sue Thomas with S. Ricky Christian

Publisher: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc. • Wheaton, IL

Questions/Discussion Topics

1. Why did Sue love skating so much? How was she able to skate to the music?
2. How could Mrs. Miller have adapted the spelling test so that Sue could have understood it?
3. Why were grades 1–3 so bad for Sue?
4. Was the principal justified in spanking her every time she defended herself from the mean boys? Why or why not?
5. How did Sue end up working for the surveillance program at the FBI?
6. Do you think her parents should have taught her sign language? Why or why not? How would Sue's life have been different if she had learned sign language?



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