You Try It

Take a look at the opening scene from Among the Hidden, by Margaret Haddix. As you read it, think about the Notice and Note lessons and mark any parts of the passage that bring any of those lessons to mind. Think about the anchor question for that lesson (list of anchor questions is found on page 79), and jot down your thinking in the space provided under the passage. Then, if you’re reading this book as part of a study group, talk with others about what they noticed.

As you share, don’t be surprised if the same lines meant different things to you and your colleagues. Talk about why you labeled a line one way and consider why your colleague made a different choice. Remember, the critical conversation emerges as you discuss the answer to the anchor question. As you listen to one another’s answers, you’ll see that a richer picture develops when people do see lines in different ways. Once you’ve completed this, you might turn to the Classroom Close-up found on page 90 to see what a group of seventh graders had to say about this first paragraph.

OK, get started.

He saw the first tree shudder and fall, far off in the distance. Then he heard his mother call out the kitchen window: “Luke! Inside. Now.”

He had never disobeyed the order to hide. Even as a toddler, barely able to walk in the backyard’s tall grass, he had somehow understood the fear in his mother’s voice. But on this day, the day they began taking the woods away, he hesitated. He took one extra breath of the fresh air, scented with clover and honeysuckle and—coming from far away—pine smoke. He laid his hoe down gently, and savored one last moment of feeling warm soil beneath his bare feet. He reminded himself, “I will never be allowed outside again. Maybe never again as long as I live.”

He turned and walked into the house, as silently as a shadow.

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My Thoughts

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