

17. My Most Embarrassing Day by Carrie Beckwith

A ¹The thought of Mom dropping me off in front of the theater was more embarrassing than having to walk with my little brother to school every day. ²How could she do this to me? ³Didn't she understand that Bret Michaels was the most popular boy in school? ⁴"Mom, just try to remember what it was like to be 14 years old. ⁵Didn't you want to do things on your own?"

B ⁶"I am not going to let you walk to the theater by yourself in the dark, Meagan."

C ⁷"But there is nothing to worry about, Mom. ⁸I'm old enough to..."

D ⁹"That's enough, Meagan." ¹⁰Mom turned up the radio. ¹¹She was tuning me out. ¹²Now every car within a mile of us could hear Willie Nelson belting out "To All the Girls I've Loved Before." ¹³I slunk down in the seat and pulled my turtleneck sweater up to my nose.

E ¹⁴Mom turned the radio down again and then turned into the back parking lot. ¹⁵"I'll watch you until you get in." ¹⁶I smiled, filled with gratitude. ¹⁷

"Thanks, Mom. ¹⁸I'll meet you at 8:30 right here—in back."

F ¹⁹"Have a good time, sweetie. ²⁰Do you have enough money?"

G ²¹"Yes, I'm fine," I reassured her. ²²My hands were sweating. ²³I hoped he wouldn't



try to hold them. ²⁴But if he didn't, would that be a bad sign? ²⁵Stop worrying and just relax, I told myself over and over again as I walked up to the ticket box. ²⁶And then I saw something that I never would have expected. ²⁷The most popular boy at school pulled up to the front of the theater in an old station wagon. ²⁸Bret's baby sister was in a car seat in back. ²⁹He kissed his mom on the cheek and patted his little sister on the head. ³⁰Then he waved when he saw me and said, "Meagan, come here. ³¹I want you to meet my mom and my little sis."

H ³²In that brief moment, I realized that it wasn't my mother that embarrassed me anymore; it was that silly girl with the turtleneck sweater pulled up to her nose.

DIRECTIONS: Choose or write the best answer to each of the following questions using the evidence presented in the passage. When required, list specific sentence numbers or paragraph letters from the story to support your answer.

- 1. At about what time does the story take place?
 - A. 3:00 p.m.
 - B. 6:30 p.m.
 - C. 8:30 p.m.
 - D. 7:30 p.m.

List the numbers of the 2 sentences that best support your answer. _____, _____

- 2. What caused Meagan's mother to turn up the radio and tune Meagan out?

Give the number of the sentence that best supports your answer. _____

- 3. How do you predict Meagan will act the next time her mother drops her off where her friends will be?

Give the number of the sentence that best supports your answer. _____

- 4. Who is the girl Meagan refers to in sentence 32?

Give the number of the sentence that best supports your answer. _____

- 5. List the numbers of the three sentences within the passage that support the idea that Meagan's mom is concerned about her. _____, _____, _____

- 6. How did Meagan's point of view change by the end of the story?

Give the number of the sentence that best supports your answer. _____

- 7. What is the main reason Meagan wanted to walk to the theater alone?

- A. She wanted to go in the back entrance.
- B. She saw Bret in the back parking lot with his mom.
- C. She didn't want Bret to see her with her mom.
- D. The music coming from the car was embarrassingly loud.

Give the letter of the paragraph that best supports your answer. _____

- 8. Compare Meagan's treatment of her mother to Bret's treatment of his mother.
