

what story does a girl say, "I can eat you like a chocolate bar, M.A."

- Trying to find a word to describe feeling:

HUSH

someone pulling my skin back each time...  
Jacqueline Woodson

Did Daddy do the right thing?

SETTING: begins in Denver, later on the island of Antigua in the Caribbean

new setting: just five rooms w/ narrow doorways, floors covered with

CHARACTERS:

\*Toswiah Green...also Evie Thomas (grew up in San Francisco), story began when she is age 12, copper penny, tall, quiet, long legs, Daddy longlegs, Spider, Neckbone, good at track

\*Mother - Shirley, deep brown skin, teacher, in the second part of the story she is a Jehovah's Witness

\*Father - Jonathan...also Evan Thomas, lighter brown skin, has been a policeman all his adult life

\*Cameron Green...also Anna Thomas (grew up in San Francisco), coppery also, brave, popular, smart

\*LuLu - Toswiah's best friend in Denver born in the same hospital as Toswiah, both born one month premature, less than 5 lbs,

\*Matt Cat - family cat in Denver

\*Mr. Dennis/Mr. Randall - policeman who killed Raymond Taylor. Both went to jail for manslaughter.

\*Raymond Taylor - innocent 15 year old boy killed mistakenly by Mr. Dennis and Mr. Randall. Only child.

\*Toswiah - in new school, girl with a constant circle of friends

\*Sheila - developmentally disabled sister of Toswiah

\*Sheba - Sheila's dog

\*Leigh Lacori - track coach, tall & skinny

\*Mira - on track team, dark like Towiah's mother, soft spoken, had an accent

\*Denise - member of the track team

## QUESTIONS

\*What story often refers to the Rocky Mountains?

\*In what story do you have this song, mentioned at the beginning of the first chapter:

"All That You Have Is Your Soul"? (This theme is important throughout the whole book.)

\*...was everything about the characters gone - their names, pictures, old clothes and their lives?

\*...does the main character ask the reader to "sit down and lift your feet up off the floor and imagine you can never put them down on it again."?

\*...do two girls become blood sisters?

\*...did a character buy a magazine "Watchtower", and a small brown book called Reasoning The Scriptures, from Jehovah's Witnesses?

\*...is a Blue Wall of Silence referred to? What is it? A policeman's code.

\*What do "Miranda Rights" mean? You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say and be held against you in a court of law. You have the right to an attorney.

\*...is a girl's father the only black policeman in the precinct?

\*...is the beginning of the ending of a family's life as they knew it, when a medal was pinned to father's chest?

- \*...is a 15 year old boy killed by two policeman, who were friends of the main character's family.
- \*...does a family receive death threats over the telephone?
- \*...do you find this quote "Blood's the same color, no matter what it's flowing thru."
- \*...do you find this quote "Cop's first. That's always been the rule,"
- \*...were three shots fired thru a kitchen window?
- \*...did a grandmother promise a coconut cake for her granddaughter's birthday?
- \*What is the name of the college Cameron (Anna) wants to attend in Massachussetts when she is sixteen? Simon's Rock
- \*Ma Ma goes every other night to the Kingdom Hall. On Sunday, Evie and Anna go with her. They don't celebrate holdays or birthdays. "The future is what matters."
- \*...were women not allowed to wear pant at Kingdom Hall because elders said it was disrespectful to God?
- \*...did a wife bring "want ads" home to her husband?
- \*...are the main characters given green bibles with the words HOLY SCRIPTURE written on them in gold lettering?
- \*What did these letter become when the main character squinted? A mountain in Denver
- \*...do you find the quote,"Does it matter what I am if I'm not anyone?"
- \*...does a mother think her daughter is being tutored in science when she is really going out for the track team?
- \*...does a mother have a new motte "Academics and the Bible"?
- \*...is the statement "Your legs are long," the friendliest thing anyone has said to the main character in a long time?
- \*...does the main character often think about the reality of how everything you've ever loved could be taken away from you?
- \*... does a letter come from Grandma every month, with a Texas postmark.
- \*...do both girls go to a coffee shop to have a drink of Chamomile tea at a very important part of the story?
- \*...does a father enter a hospital that is named after an apostle?
- \*...is the statement "Evie Ivie Over" repeated often?
- \*...are these words to a song very meaningful to the main character..."Do you like or love either or both of me?" Toswiah or Evie
- \*...do you find this song "Hus little baby don't say a word. Daddy's gonna buy you a mockingbird."
- \*\*"In all of your getting, get understanding." Said by grandmother.
- \*...does a girl get accepted to Simon Rock College.
- \*...does the main character tell her new schoolmates that she is from San Francisco, when she is really from Denver.
- \*...does a father realize that what was important was what his daughter wanted, not what he wanted?
- \*...does the main character think "My life is a rewrite. I hope this is the last revision."