

*This guide was prepared using the Dell edition, © 1989. Other editions may differ.*

#### SYNOPSIS

**Chap. 1** On Tuesday in May, two weeks after her birthday, 17-year-old April Corrigan, a junior at Springside Academy and tennis champ, leaves her home in Norwood, Virginia, south of Washington, D. C. Her thoughts turn to the prom, which is four days away. When boyfriend Steve picks her up before school, she confirms that her father, George, an employee of Southern Skyways, has been involved in a trial for three and a half weeks as witness against Richard Loftin, with whom he traveled on business trips to South America. She thinks about the Christmas party that brought her together with Steve.

**Chap. 2** Called to the counselor's office, April leaves typing class and departs with her grandmother Lorelei Gilbert. At home, she learns that an FBI agent named Max, her father's boyhood friend in Pittsburgh, has arranged for protective custody of April, her mother Liz, and little brother Bram after someone fired a gun at their father in the courtroom. They leave Porky, their cocker spaniel, with Lorelei, switch vehicles at the Federal Building, and depart to a hotel, where they must remain incommunicado. Jim Peterson, a pro at witness protection, stays with them as bodyguard. Liz confides that George is more than an airline employee and has been spying for the FBI.

**Chap. 3** At the Mayflower Hotel in Richmond, April picks up on a phone call during which Jim hears from Max that anonymous death threats have targeted the Corrigans. She realizes that the hotel stay may be longer than she expected.

**Chap. 4** On Wednesday, George phones to announce that the family cannot return home until the trial ends. A newspaper article discloses that he had accompanied Loftin on two flights to South America over the past eight months. Liz accuses George of enjoying his role as spy. Over the next 18 days, the family orders food, sends out laundry, and receives extra clothing and amusements from Jim, who shops at a mall.

News of a guilty verdict does not end the hotel stay. April, angry that she missed the prom, squabbles with Liz, who is finishing a book due in August. Jim accuses April of immaturity and notes that her mother drinks too much. April writes a letter to Steve and sneaks out during the night to mail it.

**Chap. 5** Jim accuses April of pouting and apologizes for hurting her feelings. While he goes to the mall for board games, she opens the door to a tall woman from the hotel staff. When the worker turns out to be a male hitman in disguise, she presses on the door as Jim runs up the hall. She hears shots. Liz phones Max, who arrives at 3:00 A. M., spirits the family out the service elevator, and drives away. He reports that the gunman's name is Mike Vamp.

**Chap. 6** At Williamsburg, the family reunites with George, who explains their enrollment in the Federal Witness Security

Program, managed by the U. S. Marshals Service. Max relates that Vamp shot Jim in the head and stuffed him into a linen closet. The family moves from motel to motel. On the third night, Rita Green assigns new identities. April's father recalls that he grew up in Pittsburgh and met his wife Liz while he worked at a resort in the Catskills. Liz predicts that she will have difficulty around librarians and English teachers, who might recognize her from the acceptance speech she gave the previous year after winning the California Young Readers Medal. Rita liquidates the family's investments and property. She gets contact lenses to cover Bram's mismatched eyes. April wonders how long they will have to continue the charade.

**Chap. 7** Five days later, Rita renames the family Ellen and Philip Weber and their children Jason and Valerie. Rita reports that an unidentified caller tried to worm information from Lorelei by pretending that a movie producer wanted to buy "Ellen's" book. At 6:00 P. M., the family splits up to fly under false names to Florida and a new home in Grove City. Rita hacks off April's hair.

On the plane south, April and her mother sit together. April meets Abby Keller, an intrusive girl who asks too many personal questions. At the parking lot, the "Webers" drive away in a dented Plymouth. They locate Lemon Lane and a driveway that carries them away from the road through undergrowth and over a drainage ditch. Their new house is small, ludicrously out of date, and in poor repair.

**Chap. 8** April walks past the school and meets Kim Stanfield playing tennis with her cousin Larry Bushnell, who is captain of the school tennis team. April claims to be from Durham, North Carolina. Larry invites her to return the next morning to play tennis again. On the way home, April meets Tom Geist, the U. S. marshal assigned to their case.

**Chap. 9** Tom insists on contact lenses for Bram and a low-key social life with acquaintances kept at a distance. He hands George money to buy Zip-Pic, a photo processing shop, which earns them a bare living. Liz buys a typewriter, but cannot submit manuscripts. On a movie date with Larry, April encounters Kim and Larry's guest, Abby Keller, who recognizes her as April.

**Chap. 10** April lies about her identity. At the movie, she flees from Larry's familiarity and hides in the restroom. She overhears other teens gossiping about her family. Departing after 10:00 P. M., Larry asks April to the beach the next day, but she declines. George informs her that she cannot play tennis competitively to avoid national publicity. She conceals that Larry had seen Bram without his contacts.

**Chap. 11** The next day, the family goes to Disney World in Orlando. Left with Bram, April unexpectedly encounters Jodi Simmons, her former tennis partner. April flees but cannot avoid her. Jodi dismays her with the news that Steve is dating Sherry, April's former best friend.

**Chap. 12** George regrets the ill-advised trip, but has no

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sympathy for April's broken heart. She has a fight with Larry over the phone. When they reunite four days later, Amy invites them to a party on Saturday. April drinks too much punch and fumbles her cover story. Larry accuses her of lying about meeting Abby on the plane. The next day, George announces that, after Loftin was released on bail, someone shot him. George is still on the hit list. He gives a handful of \$50 bills to April, but depresses her with the news that she cannot go to Duke University.

**Chap. 13** The next morning, three months after the arrival in Florida, April lies about spending the weekend with Kim. She books a flight to Norwood and phones Steve from the Sarasota bus terminal. A call to Lorelei does not generate the welcome April expected. Before departing, she writes to her parents. She rushes to embrace Steve at the airport.

**Chap. 14** In her original identity, April explains that she cannot divulge the family's predicament. Steve is less affectionate than April expected. At her grandmother's residence, Pat the security guard calls before admitting April. Lorelei, in a cast from an attack by a man posing as a deliveryman who broke her arm, convinces April that she must return to Florida. They plan to leave that night in Lorelei's Porsche. She identifies her attacker as a dark-eyed man, probably Mike Vamp.

**Chap. 15** Hauling boxes stored for April's parents and the dog Porky, the two pretend to be vacationing in New England. April feels eyes watching her as she stops at the bank. In Petersburg, Virginia, they stop at a motel. During the night, she fears that the driver of a black Camaro is listening on the other side of their room door.

**Chap. 16** April begins driving erratically to outrun the Camaro. A police officer warns her about speeding and gives her a ticket. She leaves the highway in Tutterville, South Carolina. Lorelei realizes that her phone was tapped and that the stalker heard April's call from Sarasota. April drives north to St. George, then travels to St. Augustine for the night. Lorelei realizes that the stalker stole their marked route map. April tries to warn her parents, but no one answers the phone. When they arrive at Grove City, they find the Plymouth nose down in a drainage ditch.

**Chap. 17** April tries to phone Larry, but Mr. Bushnell answers and accuses her of playing a peculiar game. Vamp captures April and Lorelei. He recounts how he traced her letter to Steve and killed Jim. April blames herself. Pleading fear of closets, she begs not to be locked in.

**Chap. 18** Immured behind the closet door, April climbs through the hatch into Bram's room. Armed with a flashlight, she flees through the kitchen and into the Plymouth. When Vamp brandishes a pistol, she opens the door and strikes him with her tennis racket. He falls backward into the ditch.

Tom Geist drives the family home from the hospital and finds April and Lorelei. George blames himself for the chaos in their lives and offers to pose as a corpse. His wife insists that they start a new life together. Liz realizes that they can no longer depend on the government to bankroll them.

**Epilogue** In December, April, in her new identity, shops with her brother at an undisclosed locale while her mother works as a secretary at an insurance agency and her grandmother sells upscale clothes at a boutique. Her father works temporarily selling sporting goods; April works at Burger King. She meets an interesting boy and explains that her family moved there in September. He invites her to a holiday party.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The author of mystery, crime, and suspense fiction, Lois Steinmetz Duncan describes herself as a born writer, bookworm, and dreamer. Born in Philadelphia on April 28, 1934, to professional magazine photographers Joseph Janney and Lois Foley Steinmetz, she began writing in her teens. She attended Duke University for one year, then surprised her parents by withdrawing in 1953 to marry and raise a family. She had shown early promise as a short story writer, submitting manuscripts regularly to popular magazines from the age of ten and winning the *Seventeen* magazine high school award for short fiction three times.

After her marriage, Duncan continued developing her talent by tackling a variety of writing and photography assignments. Publishing under her own name and the pseudonym Lois Kerry, she supported herself and three children—Robin, Kerry, and Brett—after a divorce and paid for her daughter's medical expenses. Upon her remarriage in 1965 to Donald Wayne Arquette, she bore a son Donald and daughter Kaitlyn.

Lois Duncan's prolific outpouring of works includes juvenile, young adult, and adult literature. She has published over 500 stories and articles for *Good Housekeeping*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *Redbook*, *McCall's*, *Writer's Digest*, *Woman's Day*, *Writer*, *Reader's Digest*, and *Ladies' Home Journal*. In addition to a steady flow of work, she returned to college and graduated *cum laude* from the University of New Mexico, where she taught in the journalism department from 1970-1982. Her family lives in Albuquerque.

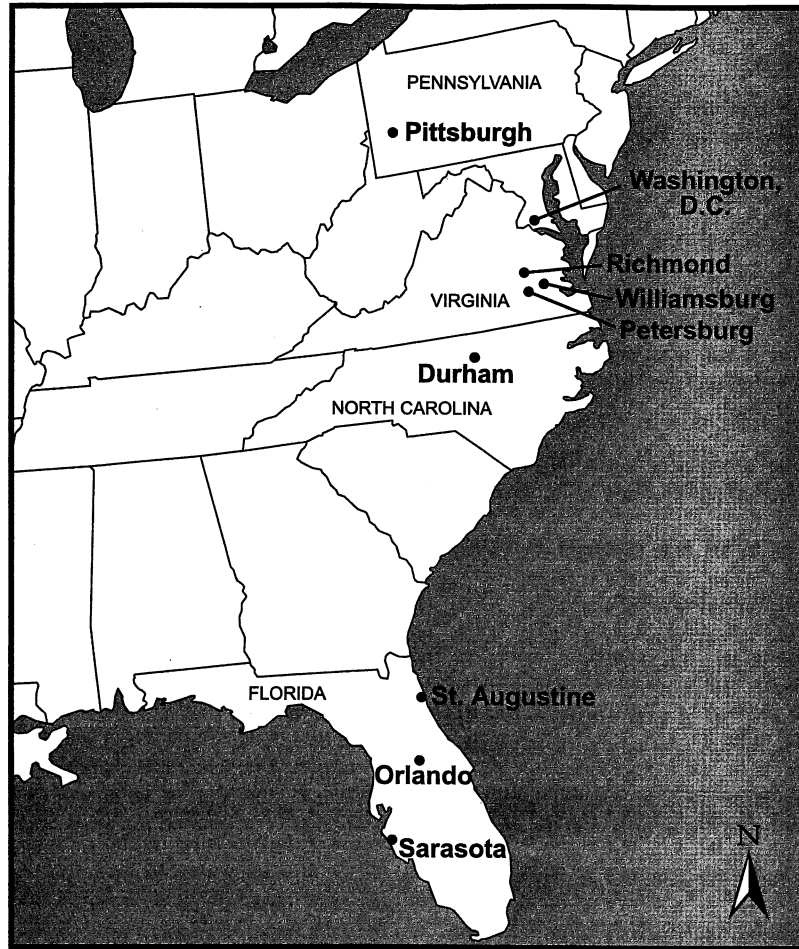
In a tragic year of her life, Duncan wrote *Who Killed My Daughter: The True Story of a Mother's Search for Her Daughter's Murderer* after Kaitlyn was similarly stalked and shot by a random killer on July 16, 1989, perhaps for her knowledge of a ring of insurance fraud artists and drug runners. Striking similarities to characters and events in *Don't Look Behind You* made Duncan conclude that she experienced precognition. Experiences with psychics intrigued her to write articles on the subject of ESP and to co-author *Psychic Connections: A Journey into the Mysterious World of Psi* with William Roll.

## CRITIC'S CORNER

Lois Duncan's awards have kept pace with her steady production of work. She has received five runner-up recognitions from the Mystery Writers of America Edgar Allan Poe award, a National Press Women's award, New Mexico Press Women's Zia award, two *New York Times* Best Books for Children citations, Ethical Culture School Book award, Library of Congress Best Books citation, *English Teacher's Journal* Best Book, two National League of American Pen Women Best Novel awards, Notable Children's Trade Book, National Council for Social Studies and the Children's Book Council, University of Iowa Best Book, Child Study Association of America's Children's Books of the Year, *Writer's Digest* Creative Writing Contest award, Theta Sigma Phi Headliner award, and five American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults awards, one for *Killing Mr. Griffin*. In 1998, she was selected the Pennsylvania Author of the Year.

Duncan's fiction adapts well to classroom lessons, library book lists, film, and audiocassette. Listening Library produced audiocassettes of *Down a Dark Hall*, *Killing Mr. Griffin*, *Summer of Fear*, and *Stranger with My Face*; RDA Enterprises recorded *Songs from Dreamland*. *Summer of Fear* was made into a 1978 NBC-TV production entitled "Stranger in

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Our House"; *Gallows Hill* appeared in 1998 as the NBC-TV film "I've Been Waiting for You." NBC-TV filmed *Killing Mr. Griffin* in 1997. *I Know What You Did Last Summer* was filmed in 1997 and a sequel, *I Still Know What You Did Last Summer*, the following year. "In 2000, Miracle Entertainment signed Dennis Hopper to star in *Held for Ransom*, an adaptation of Duncan's *Ransom*. In 2001, a parent complaint caused the Fairfax County school board to ban *Daughters of Eve*.

### OTHER WORKS BY LOIS DUNCAN

#### Fiction

*The Birthday Moon* (1989)  
*The Circus Comes Home* (1992)  
*Daughters of Eve* (1979)  
*Debutante Hill* (1958).  
*Don't Look Behind You* (1989)  
*Down a Dark Hall* (1974)  
*Gallows Hill* (1997)  
*Game of Danger* (1962)  
*A Gift of Magic* (1971)  
*Giving Away Suzanne* (1963)  
*Horses of Dreamland* (1985)  
*Hotel for Dogs* (1971)  
*I Know What You Did Last Summer* (1973)  
*I Walk at Night* (2000)  
*The Littlest One in the Family* (1960)  
*Locked in Time* (1985)

*The Longest Hair in the World* (2001)  
*Love Song for Joyce* (1958)  
*The Magic Spider Women* (1996)  
*Major Andre: Brave Enemy* (1969)  
*Night Terrors: Stories of Shadow and Substance* (1996)  
*On the Edge: Stories at the Brink* (2000)  
*Peggy* (1970)  
*Point of Violence* (1966)  
*A Promise for Joyce* (1959)  
*The Middle Sister* (1961)  
*Ransom* (1966)  
*Season of the Two-Heart* (1964)  
*Silly Mother* (1962)  
*Songs from Dreamland* (1989)  
*Stranger with My Face* (1981)  
*Summer of Fear* (1976)  
*The Terrible Tales of Happy Days School* (1983)  
*They Never Came Home* (1969)  
*The Third Eye* (1984)  
*Trapped!: Cages of Mind and Body* (1998)  
*The Twisted Window* (1987)  
*When the Bough Breaks* (1974)  
*Wonder Kid Meets the Evil Lunch Snatcher* (1988)  
**Nonfiction**  
*Chapters: My Growth as a Writer* (1982)  
*From Spring to Spring: Poems and Photographs* (1982)  
*How to Write and Sell Your Personal Experiences* (1979)

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*Psychic Connections: A Journey into the Mysterious World of Psi* (2000)

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*A Visit with Lois Duncan* (videotape). Albuquerque, N.M.: RDA Enterprises, 1985.

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### GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1. To understand the impact of lost identity
2. To account for immature acts
3. To interpret social and community attitudes toward families in flight
4. To contrast the outlook and stability of family members
5. To discuss the themes of loss and courage
6. To recount the main events in the formation of a new home
7. To particularize the demands of living a lie
8. To describe attitudes and behaviors during tense moments
9. To describe elements of atmosphere and tone
10. To analyze flashbacks as sources of information

### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To explain how April becomes Val Weber
2. To analyze the symbolism of Vamp's dark eyes
3. To account for Jim Peterson's death
4. To express the importance of playing competitive tennis and attending Duke
5. To justify the use of contact lenses and a new business

6. To predict how Lorelei will survive loss of her former life in Norwood

7. To summarize Tom Geist's role as marshal

8. To discuss the implications of April's disobedience

9. To summarize the roles of FBI agents, hitmen, and April's old friends

10. To list dismaying events caused by suspicion, judgments, and prying

11. To characterize events that cause April to drive north on the way to Florida

12. To analyze details that contribute to the confusion of friends and acquaintances

### LITERARY TERMS AND APPLICATIONS

For a better understanding of Lois Duncan's fiction, present the following terms and applications:

**episode** a coherent event, digression, or incident in a narrative or serial that stands out on its own merit, in particular, April's confrontation of Mike Vamp in disguise as a hotel maid. The scenario flashes by in brief glimpses of the tall maid, five o'clock shadow, and piercing eyes. April's attempt to shut and lock the door and the appearance of Jim Peterson with bags of board games from the mall conclude without her awareness of Jim's death from a shot to the head. Only later, when she learns the truth about Jim's murder and connects her own disobedience in mailing the letter to Steve does she piece together the import of her ill-advised actions.

**characterization** the creation of full-fledged human motivation, behavior, and response in fictional people. Duncan gives April Corrigan a range of responses and feelings as a result of her father's role in a criminal investigation and trial. When she withdraws to think over her loss, April suffers self-pity and rationalizes a lie about spending the weekend with Amy as she makes her way north by bus and plane to reunite with Steve and Lorelei. The realization that Steve has found a new girl and that Lorelei has her own problems to contend with since the attack by the deliveryman shocks April into more mature thinking about her predicament as a member of a family.

**first person narrative** a story or a series of actions told from the vantage point of a single observer inside the action. By limiting the point of view to April Corrigan, Duncan enhances characterization of a young girl coping with family dissolution and a life-threatening flight from a hitman. Because the story comes full circle with the meeting, prism, and invitation to a Christmas party, the author implies that April will relive some of the elements of her love for Steve and will improve on her choices and behaviors.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF SETTING

*Don't Look Behind You* takes April Corrigan from the safety of a pleasant bedroom of antiques in a comfortable house to the school milieu in which she thrives. Crucial to her self-worth are school performance and success on the tennis courts. The rapid deterioration of her old life speeds her from the counselor's office to a federal building for transfer into a car with windows painted black. Relocated from Norwood, Virginia, to Richmond and the Mayflower Hotel, she tolerates reading on the hotel balcony and gazing on swimmers in the hotel pool below while eating room service meals, longing to make phone calls, and living like a recluse.

After Jim's murder in the hotel hall, the Corrigan family's rapid transfer six miles to Williamsburg reunites them with

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George, but continued shuffling from hotel to hotel offers little change of scenery. When the family makes a more permanent shift to Florida, they pass through the airport in separate groups for the flight south to Sarasota. After picking up the clunky Plymouth in the parking lot and driving for an hour to Lemon Lane and a squalid un-air conditioned house, April retreats into self-pity.

The thunk of tennis balls on the secondary school court revives April with promise of new tennis partners and friends her own age. In a dull town containing a Zip-Pic and movie house but no restaurants, the family finds reason to long for a "mini-vay" in Orlando at Disney World and Epcot. The failure of the outing plunges April anew into the misery of pretending to be Val, living in a working-class house with unhappy parents, and longing for her old life in Norwood.

Duncan spices the story with excitement during April's flight to Norwood from Sarasota and her rapid return south at the wheel of Lorelei's Porsche. After a speeding ticket and quick turn off the interstate, the setting shifts to Tutterville, South Carolina, a quick feint to the north, and a four-hour drive to St. Augustine for the night. The final scene between Mike Vamp and April ends her connection with Grove City following a climb into the attic and escape through the kitchen to the Plymouth, which slipped off the bridge into the drainage ditch that separates the house from Lemon Lane. In the epilogue, the setting must remain unidentified to protect April's new home and new identity.

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*The Shoestring Murders*, Recorded Books

#### Books

Charlotte Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

Emily Brontë, *Wuthering Heights*

Robert Cormier, *After the First Death*, *The Chocolate War*, and *I Am the Cheese*

Agatha Christie, *Murder on the Orient Express*

Caroline Cooney, *The Face on the Milk Carton*

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*

Daphne DuMaurier, *Jamaica Inn* and *Rebecca*

Virginia Hamilton, *The House of Dies Drear*

Henry James, *The Turn of the Screw*

M. E. Kerr, *Gentlehands*

Stephen King, *Salem's Lot* and *The Shining*

Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Susan Pfeffer, *The Year Without Michael*

Ellen Raskin, *The Westing Game*

Paul Zindel, *The Pigman* and *The Pigman's Legacy*

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*Laura*

*Rebecca*

*Salem's Lot*

*Song of the South*

*The Turn of the Screw*

*The Westing Game*

### THEMES AND MOTIFS

A study of the central issues and situations in *Don't Look Behind You* should include these aspects:

#### Themes

- contentment
- separation
- chaos
- loss of identity
- pursuit
- reunion
- victimization
- maturity
- flight
- family love

#### Motifs

- coping with a hopeless situation
- seeking new beginnings
- making friends in a new environment
- comprehending the need for secrecy

### MEANING STUDY

Below are significant words, phrases, or sentences from the novel. Explain each in context. Chapter and page numbers pinpoint each entry so that you can re-read the passage in which it appears.

1. Sunlight poured in through the open window, and the crystal prism Steve had given me for my seventeenth birthday two weeks earlier to symbolize "a year that will be filled with rainbows" twisted and spun on the end of its thread, creating a multicolored kaleidoscope on the wall across from it. (Chap. 1, p. 2)  
(*The birthday gift of glass or crystal cut with precise angles and plane faces reflects light, separating and bending it into constituent colors of the spectrum. The reflection of rainbow colors parallels April's belief that life will go on being joyful and satisfying as she ends her junior year in high school as a popular student, excellent tennis player, and the girlfriend of a handsome senior.*)
2. Then, after lunch, my tennis partner, Jodi Simmons, and I went out to the gym to see if Coach Malloy had posted the seeding for the state tournament. (Chap. 1, p. 8)  
(*Again, April gets her heart's desire for the state tournament—first place on the doubles and women's singles*)

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- lists. The alliance of so many positives sets her up for a great fall when departure from Norwood, Virginia, costs her the tournament, friendship with Jodi, the prom, and Steve.)*
- The most recent area of conflict was Mother's refusal to take time off from the book she was working on to write press releases for Lorelei's current fund-raiser. (Chap. 2, p. 12)  
*(A conflict between April's mother and grandmother sets up a minor tension that isn't resolved until the final scene, when both women sit in the squalid little Florida house and compare casts and broken right arms.)*
  - He's a former cop and a pro at witness protection. (Chap. 2, p. 18)  
*(Jim Peterson's expertise as a bodyguard seems a given until the family faces the approach of the stalker, Mike Vamp, disguised as a hotel maid. Jim's instantaneous reach for his holster and the failure of his hand to connect with the gun costs him his life. Max does not credit Jim with heroism because he accepted a job that he would have difficulty performing, thus endangering his own life and those of the people he was protecting.)*
  - Airline employees confiscated the unclaimed luggage and placed it in airport lockers. (Chap. 4, p. 29)  
*(Standard procedure at airports requires caution with unclaimed luggage, which could be lost or packed with explosives. Staff who are part of the illicit narcotics traffic from South America carry Richard Loftin's and George Corrigan's suitcases to lockers for removal and delivery to drug dealers. Without their connection with airport security, they would have more difficulty hauling contraband into the United States.)*
  - Max is all the things Dad always dreamed of being—smooth and macho, spewing out charm and self-confidence. (Chap. 4, p. 30)  
*(Essential to the story is George Corrigan's self-delusion that he can emulate Max's FBI excitement and panache by volunteering to spy on Richard Loftin and testify against him when he comes to trial for drug running.)*
  - A note from your missing Rapunzel! I wish I were really the princess in that fairy tale and could let my hair down fourteen stories so my prince could climb up to me. (Chap. 4, p. 36)  
*(April's fairy-tale life comes closer to obliteration after Rita arrives to help the family escape to a new hiding place. The whacking off of April's long hair with nail scissors assaults her self-image further, distancing her from the princess who awaits rescue by her handsome prince.)*
  - "Mike Vamp doesn't play patty cake, April," said Max. "He's one of the most notorious hitmen in the country." (Chap. 6, p. 51)  
*(The connection between the hitman and a vampire creates an anticipation of a lurking assailant with piercing eyes. His attack on Lorelei is in keeping with his rapid assault on the vulnerable and a violent nature that earns him a living as a hired murderer. It is surprising that he didn't kill her out of frustration with her lack of information about his victim's whereabouts.)*
  - Won't we need to have transcripts and inoculation records? (Chap. 6, p. 55)

- (Rita Green's quick summary of the family's needs suggests experience with the Federal Witness Security Program. In addition to falsified records, she has access to a small Vermont school that supplies transcripts in keeping with April and Jason's academic performance.)*
- In the meantime we'll see about liquidating your assets. (Chap. 6, p. 57)  
*(To save the Corrigan's from complete loss of property and savings, Rita Green quickly sells assets. The cash helps to defray use of government money to set up witnesses in new lives.)*

### COMPREHENSION STUDY

Answer the following questions in your own words. There is not always a right answer. Your judgment is important and you should be ready to defend your answers with quotations from the novel.

#### Motivation

- What caused George to spy on Richard Loftin's drug crimes?  
*(The revelation of George Corrigan's character casts him as a naive, but well-intentioned bumbler who wants the excitement and cachet of spying for the government like his friend Max, an FBI agent. When April describes him as "not a risk taker," Liz charges, "Chalk it up to a master manipulator. Ever since they were boys together back in Pittsburgh, Max has been leading your father around by the nose." She concludes that Max "is all the things Dad always dreamed of being—smooth and macho, spewing out charm and self-confidence." She believes that George took the spy job to "play the part of a hero" and "be James Bond Two."*  
*During the day's outing at Disney World in Orlando, George answers April's questions about the mess the family faces. He begins by congratulating himself for being "a responsible citizen" and admits that he "wanted to be a hero." His description of his life as a ski bum in the Catskills, Lorelei's gift of the Norwood house, and Grandpa Clyde's aid in getting him a job managing Southern Skyways makes George seem vivid and lacking in initiative. He halts his rambling confessional with the admission that "I wound up doing something stupid.")*

#### Setting

- Describe the Lemon Lane residence.  
*(As the "Webers" drive toward Lemon Lane in Grove City, an hour from Sarasota, they seek a mailbox marked "Jefferson" and wander up and down Orange Avenue until George ventures down a dirt lane in the underbrush. Hidden in a "maze of trees and bushes" is a driveway over a drainage ditch, rickety carport, and small frame house. Over a creaky porch they advance into a hot, muggy room smelling of mildew and inspect their new home.*  
*When George turns on the overhead light, the sight of a living room "narrow and uncarpeted and unfashionably furnished with a sagging sofa, mismatched coffee and end tables, and a couple of overstuffed, underhung nylon armchairs," the family's first response is to burst into laughter, a tension easer after days of suspense and fear. They ridicule the humble house for its six small rooms with cracked and stained ceilings, flaky plaster, and tiny windows. The kitchen with an "army of cockroaches" and no air conditioning, dishwasher, or*

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*garbage disposal caps their misery as a privileged family reduced to working class.)*

### Character Development

3. How does April change after she leaves Norwood?

*(April's metamorphosis from a spoiled, idealistic upper middle class teenager to a young woman comes at a high price. At a turning point, when she looks at her family in Grove City, Florida, before fleeing north to Lorelei in Norwood, Virginia, April describes herself as "Steve's girlfriend, the 'princess' of Springside Academy, the star of their tennis team, a girl who was guaranteed acceptance by Duke because her mother and grandmother both had gone there." The summation suggests that April is not entirely proud of her old image.)*

*In December, after causing the death of Mike Vamp and forcing the family to make another move without government help, April returns in the epilogue under a new, undisclosed identity and with a more settled outlook. Working at Burger King and wearing an unflattering uniform, she examines her hair, which is still no longer than her collar. More mature than the Rapunzel of the previous spring and summer, April admits, "I'm wondering now if it's worth the effort to grow it. It's easier to take care of when it's short like this." Without acknowledging regret or self-pity, she is able to think of herself as a student "not into sports or anything." She is also able to classify her relationship with Steve as a first love and to put out of mind "the vast cavern of might-have-beens.")*

### Historical Milieu

4. How does the story fit an historical era?

*(The 1980s, an era of heavy drug running and government agencies intervening in the accompanying underworld crime, produced spectacular headlines about raids, arrest of traffickers, impounded vehicles, long prison terms, and heroics of agents attempting to halt the flow of illegal substances from South America into the United States. Use of the Federal Witness Security Program to acquire the cooperation of George Corrigan as a state's evidence witness for the prosecution is a plausible basis for the story of April's new identity. His job as manager of Southern Skyways would place him in a position to witness the movements of a drug dealer and to spy on deals by traveling to South America. The ease with which airport staff remove his drug-filled luggage from inspection also seems likely.)*

### Theme

5. What does April learn about obedience?

*(April's regret over disobedience comes slowly as she stops thinking about her own losses and realizes that her actions affect the entire family and the federal agents who assist them. At Lorelei's front door in Norwood, April learns too late that her grandmother has also paid the price of George's testimony against Richard Loftin. Still impaired with a cast on her right arm and terrified of unexpected visitors, Lorelei charges, "You're such a stubborn child, there's just no way to reason with you.")*

*In the custody of Mike Vamp at the Grove City house, April, chastened for her recklessness, undergoes visions of "people I loved . . . as if each one had come to bid me good-bye." She pictures Steve, Jodi, and Sherry, then recalls Jim Peterson, the family's cheerful bodyguard at the Mayflower Hotel. Her response is personal and tinged with guilt, "Jim—I whispered silently—Jim, I'm so*

*sorry! I'm the one who did it, I called in the vampire. I was stupid and selfish and caused a tragedy to happen.")*

### Interpretation

6. What does Duncan indicate about the price of justice?

*(The sufferings of the Corrigan family and of Lorelei are undeserved, but constitute a realistic end to government action against a vicious drug dealer. The gunshot at George in the courtroom and threatening letters precipitate a downward spiral of running, hiding, and deception that is out of character to an affluent Virginia family. George loses his job, house, and much of his investment as well as his self-confidence and the respect of his wife. Liz must abandon professional writing and live in a squalid house with antiquated furnishings and no conveniences. April and Bram must give up contentment in Norwood and the cushy schools and activities that once absorbed them. Symbolic of loss to April is Rita Green's hasty scissoring of her hair before the six-mile flight to a Williamsburg motel.)*

*More threatening to the Corrigans is the loss of freedom to live like a normal family and to develop their talents and ambitions like other citizens. April watches her mother sink into heavy drinking and plead for a typewriter to pound out her frustrations on writing that she can never publish. When George impresses on April that she must stop playing competitive tennis and abandon hopes of going to Duke University, she snaps and reaches into the recent past for comfort and the identity she so reluctantly gave up. The price becomes more than she is willing to sacrifice.)*

### Conflict

7. What does April learn from her experiences with Larry?

*(April enjoyed a loving relationship with Steve, an adoring senior who danced divinely and snuggled with her on the front seat of his car. In Florida, she is friendless until she meets Kim and Larry at the tennis court and releases her frustrations in morning games with Larry. The relationship is purely functional until Larry asks her to a movie and attempts to fondle her in the theater.)*

*April seems confused as Larry develops from tennis friend into full-fledged date. When she loses control at Amy's party by drinking too much punch, April sees Larry from a new angle as he snarls at her for playing identity games. She characterizes him as "an egocentric creep." Her attempted telephone call as the stalker threatens suggests that Larry and his father are not the supportive people she would want in her complicated life.)*

### Atmosphere

8. How does the ditch influence the story?

*(The ditch is one of the disappointing elements of life in a lackluster house on Lemon Lane. As a conduit for sudden heavy rains it fills rapidly to carry away surface water. The night that April drives the Porsche into the driveway, the sight of the Plymouth, "nose down in the surging waters" characterizes the torrent of emotions that fills her mind as she tries to make amends for running away from home and leaving her family in jeopardy. The lights of the Porsche direct her down the drive away from Mike Vamp, who advances with a gun. April's security in the Plymouth is shortlived as he aims the barrel at her.)*

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*April's quick action with flashlight and tennis racket catches the stalker unaware. His tumble into the ditch begins the release of tension. Bravely, she "walked that portion of ditch at least three dozen times that night, feeling around with my feet for what I didn't want to find." Tom's discovery of the body suggests a sweeping of terror from the ditch along with waste water. Tenderly carried away from the ditch toward home in her father's arms, April witnesses a growing light in the sky and "branches of the trees filled with riotous birdsong.")*

### Author Purpose

9. Why does Duncan permeate the story with complex social and personal issues, such as drinking and marital discord?

*(To characterize the immense stress of running and hiding from a professional hitman, Duncan presents the gamut of emotional responses of each character. In Bram, tension takes the form of petulance—at having to wear contact lenses—and hyperactivity at Disney World, where he enjoys the park alone with his sister. For Lorelei, the plunge into a criminal vortex causes her to retreat from charity work and glittering events into her gated community and to guard the door against the arrival of any more unwarranted intrusions.*

*For Liz and George Corrigan, the loss of identity following weeks of separation brings out normal fears and regrets in both parties. Liz, who usually has her work as an outlet, escapes through alcohol and begins displaying unusual vagueness of behavior and reflexes. When she reunites with George, he is unable to give her the comforts she knew in Norwood and even denies her a typewriter. The quarreling and long silences indicate to their children that family happiness dissolves quickly under so much stress.)*

### Structure

10. What does the epilogue add to the novel?

*(The epilogue rounds out the novel with a return to vignettes and symbols of the opening scenes. April, still young and pretty and hopeful of love, moves cautiously at the mall and reveals nothing of her former identity to give away the family's security in a new locale. Nostalgically clinging to her first love for Steve at a Christmas party, she pursues friendship with a new boy who, coincidentally, buys a prism for his mother. Recalling the rainbow lights of her own prism from Steve, she accepts the new male attention with caution. At home, the suspension of the beloved prism illumines new possibilities as April turns her back on the past and reaches into the future for a stable life.)*

### HOW LANGUAGE WORKS

Duncan creates idiosyncrasies in description and character language to flesh out implications about motivation and behavior.

1. Socially sophisticated and discreet about her private life, Lorelei quells April's questions about Lorelei's quarrels with Liz and says for the sake of the redhaired woman eavesdropping on their conversation, "I can't imagine how you got an idea like that . . . Come along, April. We will do our talking in the car."
2. George "Bram" Bramwell Jr., the hyperactive and self-absorbed little brother, makes the demands of a spoiled boy unaccustomed to being denied. After Max denies

him the opportunity to find a home for Porky, he retorts, "But Porky can't stay in the house by himself!"

3. An important figure in April's maturity is Jim Peterson, the former cop who becomes the Corrigan's in-house bodyguard at the Mayflower Hotel. To her carping about losing Steve and perhaps spending a whole summer in seclusion, he applies straight talk: "You've done far too much talking already. You've got a lot of growing up to do, April. . . . You're part of the Cinemax generation. You can't believe real-life stories don't always have happy endings, and you think of yourself as the star and the rest of us as bit players."
4. Less forthright is George, who slides into the hard news of the family's destiny without giving them the true picture. In Grove City, he admits the bleakness of their financial picture, "We'll play it by ear . . . We'll see how it goes. Right now we need the money more than the house."
5. The hitman, accustomed to thinking of murder as a job, horrifies April with his demands: "Unlock that door and get out of the car. . . . Your father's the one I want, not you or your grandmother. When my job here is done, the rest of the family can go."
6. The new male interest in April's life is less self-centered than Larry and not as smooth as Steve. By way of introducing a social interest in April, the boy hints, "With the holidays coming up, there are going to be parties."

### ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

#### Art

Design contrasting murals or posters to demonstrate these paired actions: April listening at the motel room door/Larry snuggling close to April at the movie, Bram insisting on staying at Disney World/April calling Steve from the bus station, Jodi awaiting April after school/Kim introducing April to Abby, April working at Burger King/"Philip" opening the Zip-Pic, Steve dancing with April at the Christmas party/April's new friend buying a prism.

#### Business and Economics

1. Describe the types of work that the family members choose to help April's father cope with expenses of another move. Suggest additional sources of income for Lorelei, Liz, April, and Bram and ways to cut down on the cost of vacations, new clothes, furniture, and vehicles.
2. Chart in dollars and cents the income of an airline employee, FBI agent, U. S. marshal, tennis coach, photo shop owner, motel manager, clothing seller at a boutique, Burger King employee, and hitman.
3. Make a shopping list of goods and services that the family may need after they arrive at a new home.

#### Cinema

1. Propose a film biography of Lois Duncan. Outline scenes to express her value to young adult literature, especially in public and school libraries and reading classes.
2. View films with troubled or fleeing characters, such as *I Am the Cheese* or *Rebecca*. Compare the movies' settings, themes, and dialogue to those of *Don't Look Behind You*.

#### Drama

1. Role-play the part of a doctor, firefighter, news reporter,



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undertaker, coach, employer, grief counselor, security guard, hotel maid, school counselor, theater usher, FBI agent, U. S. marshal, airline employee, witness, and family friend of the Corrigan family or the "Webers." Explain how the story would change if Jim had survived and shot Mike Vamp.

2. Draw stage settings for a dramatization of arriving at Lemon Lane, playing tennis with Larry, begging Mike not to lock April and Lorelei in the closet, sitting near Abby on the plane to Sarasota, arriving at the counselor's office from typing class, recovering from a hangover after drinking too much punch, and slipping through the attic and into Bram's closet. Supply sketches of costumes and props.
3. Pantomime the abnormal personality traits and behaviors of Mike Vamp, particularly his disguise as a hotel maid and as a deliveryman to Lorelei's residence. Determine why his eyes dismay April and her grandmother.

### Geography

1. Use topographical maps to describe the land that Lorelei and April cover on their journey from Norwood to Grove City. Explain why the Porsche remains obvious to the stalker in the black Camaro until April pulls off the highway in Tutterville, South Carolina, and begins driving north.
2. Create a geographic commentary to accompany a newspaper account of Norwood, the school, investigation, Richard Loftin's trial, and the Corrigan family's disappearance. Give directions from Norwood to Sarasota, Florida. Account for minor details, particularly flat land, muggy weather, sporadic storms, mildew, and the drainage ditch that fills with rainwater.
3. Make a web site or bulletin board that identifies these places: Sarasota, Disney World, St. Augustine, Richmond, Williamsburg, Orlando, Durham, North Carolina, Pittsburgh, the Catskills, Petersburg, Virginia, and Washington, D. C. Append a scale of miles to indicate relative distances between points, particularly between Sarasota and Orlando and between Richmond and Williamsburg.

### History and Social Studies

1. Compose an extended definition of social isolation. Explain why the term describes the "Webers" and Lorelei. Explain how isolation forces April to flee back to her old identity to be with friends, Steve, and her grandmother. Project how living in a loving family may combat feelings of displacement.
2. Explain a chart, web site, or poster on the theme of the nuclear family. Give reasons why the Federal Witness Security Program places members together in a new home in a low-key environment like Grove City.
3. Compose an extended definition of parent. Select different examples from the book, particularly the Corrigan family, Lorelei, Abby's parents, and Mr. Bushnell.
4. Research details on the job of U. S. Marshals, especially their duty to guard people enrolled in the Federal Witness Security Program. Outline the most complete data from Internet, book, magazine, and newspaper sources. Summarize qualifications for the job.
5. Based on your understanding of the novel, lead a panel discussion of the effects of endangerment, displacement, absence of a parent, arguments, drinking, and

threats on children like Bram. Support your opinions with facts from census reports, sociological surveys, and statistics obtained from almanacs and economic and health surveys.

### Language Arts

1. Divide the class into small groups to study the 18 days following the flight from Norwood to the Mayflower Hotel in Richmond. Note chronologically how and why the plan falls apart. Discuss circumstantial events such as longings to swim in the pool, April's eavesdropping on Jim, meals in the room, and Jim's departure to buy board games at the mall.
2. Analyze the number of lies that swamp the plot. Include new identities, explaining away Abby's recognition of "April Gross," refusal to play competitive tennis, pretending to stay overnight at Amy's house, and arguing with Larry over the phone about "playing games."
3. Draw a cause-and-effect diagram illustrating how Richard Loftin's crimes escalate into threats, perjury, hiring a hitman, murder, stalking, theft, and assault.
4. Draw a Venn diagram contrasting lifestyles and activities of the Corrigan family under multiple identities. Determine why the final home seems more stable and less likely to fail.
5. Compose a web site introducing young readers to other action, suspense, and crime fiction.
6. Record aloud descriptive passages from *Don't Look Behind You*. Consider preparing for travel, boarding a plane separately, buying a new business in Grove City, wearing Guess jeans to the movies, packing boxes and a tennis racket in the Porsche, going to school in Virginia, competing with the tennis team, buying Christmas presents, convincing Pat to allow entrance to Lorelei's residence, and relaxing for a day at Disney World.
7. Post a mural or web site expressing the importance of these terms to the novel: *Song of the South*, *Salem's Lot*, *The Lost Boys*, "Whistle While You Work," "It's a Small World," Mickey Mouse Club Song, Epcot, hyperactivity, reclusive, Porsche, egocentric, paranoid, time warp, adrenaline, rite of passage, momentum, Uncle Remus, briar patch, Dungeons and Dragons, subsidized, ironic, nostalgia, camphorwood, kaleidoscope, seeding, retaliate, James Bond, neophyte, Cinemax generation, Br'er Rabbit, stir-crazy, galleys, manuscript, state's evidence, ermine, Dean Witter, rugby shirt, fifteen-love, and backhand.
8. Write a scene in which April and Bram enjoy a normal childhood with two loving and devoted parents in their new home. Include April's new male friend and Lorelei in the scenario.

### Law

1. Read aloud a definition of witness protection programs and the role of courts in selecting people most at risk of retaliation for testifying against career criminals. Explain why George regrets his desire to live like Max.
2. Improve a booklet or web site explaining how to cope with stalking. Suggest ways for April and Lorelei to report the driver of the black Camaro without leaving themselves vulnerable to attack.

### Psychology

1. Explain with a character web the need for counseling for

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the Corrigans. Suggest questions that need answers: why April would disobey and fly back to Norwood, why she worries about Steve dating Sherry, why she pities herself, why she expects Lorelei to welcome her home, why she writes a letter to her parents, and why she feels guilty over Jim's murder.

2. Explain to a small group the obvious and subtle changes in April and her family. Discuss why she is rude and petulant to Jim and how she responds to Liz's drinking and George's protracted absence.
3. Draw a flow chart displaying the effects of protracted deception on friendships, family relationships, journeys, shopping, entertainment, conversation, responsibilities, trust, obedience, and family life.

### **Science and Health**

1. Join a research group to determine the causes, symptoms, and control of osteoarthritis. Emphasize modern methods of preventing, detecting, and controlling joint pain, particularly exercise, early detection, rest, weight control, and anti-inflammatory medications. Explain why painful or stiff joints would hamper the work of a bodyguard.
2. Draw a human eye and explain why April's sudden shining of the flashlight in Mike Vamp's eyes disabled him long enough for her to strike him with the tennis racket.

### **Speech**

1. Organize a discussion of guilt. Explain why April has reason to regret her behavior at the Mayflower Hotel and to blame herself for the murder of Jim Peterson and for jeopardizing her family.
2. Compose a formal presentation on trust. Explain why April is unable to form true friendships with Kim, Larry, Amy, and Abby.
3. Deliver a brief chalk talk on the construction of Disney World and Epcot. Outline short trips that Jason might enjoy in other parts of Florida.

### **ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT**

1. List examples of emotions and behaviors in major characters, for example, April's self-pity.
2. Compile a list of actions that demonstrate divided families, such as April's flight from Grove City to reunite with Lorelei.
3. Compose a scene in which April testifies at an inquest concerning Mike's or Jim's death, April finds a new boyfriend, Liz writes in secret, Lorelei opens her own boutique, Bram wants to be a spy like George, Rita congratulates April on stopping the stalker with a tennis racket, and April learns from a newscast that Jodi has won a state championship.
4. Make a character list and explain the difficulties each person faces.
5. Account for the recurrence of the motifs of loss and displacement among people who come and go in the story.

## **TEACHER'S NOTES**

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### VOCABULARY TEST

Select words from the following list to fill in blanks in the sentences below:

accentuated	egocentric	ironic	rancid	rugby
adrenaline	formidable	kaleidoscope	recluse	seeding
civilities	galleys	momentum	retaliate	state's evidence
condescending	hyperactivity	neophyte	reversal	subsidized
contrite	instinctively	nostalgia	rife	vegetate
despondently	interrogated	paranoid	rite	

1. A person who spends her life putting words on paper is my mother's idea of some sort of weird \_\_\_\_\_.
2. December is a month that is \_\_\_\_\_ with nostalgia.
3. Aside from such conventional \_\_\_\_\_, we had exchanged few words since our confrontation on Tuesday.
4. Mother's face was illuminated by the overhead reading light, which \_\_\_\_\_ the rounded curve of her cheek.
5. The air held the scents of blossoming trees and overripe fruit, and the bushes that lined the driveway and had appeared so mysterious and \_\_\_\_\_ in the dark were, in the light of morning, a lush green backdrop for brilliant orange flowers.
6. Now those were all too apparent, along with the little piles of mouse droppings littering the floorboards and the faded blue of the curtains drooping \_\_\_\_\_ at the windows.
7. How I hated that \_\_\_\_\_ compliment!
8. I got up early each morning to play tennis with Larry, but aside from that there was nothing to do but \_\_\_\_\_, and in less than a week I was mired in self-pity and loneliness.
9. They'll be sending you \_\_\_\_\_ and copy for the jacket, and the publicity people will want to discuss promotion.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ I started to turn in the direction of the voice, and then got a grip on my reflexes and held myself rigid.
11. He's an \_\_\_\_\_ creep, and I never want to see him again.
12. Having her hand me the keys to her cherished sports car indicated a role \_\_\_\_\_ I wasn't ready for.
13. There hadn't been time for word to get out that I was back in town, and Lorelei had already been \_\_\_\_\_ and discarded.
14. It's a \_\_\_\_\_ of passage for every new driver to have a fender bender, but if you continue to drive like this you'll end up in the morgue.
15. I murmured a few \_\_\_\_\_ statements and accepted the ticket.

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**COMPREHENSION TEST A**

**Part I: Character Identification (30 points)**

Match each of the following descriptions from the novel with a character name. Place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left.

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| _____ 1. takes advantage of a girl tipsy on punch                      | A. Lorelei |
| _____ 2. slyly asks April about Virginia                               | B. Steve   |
| _____ 3. takes charge of Porky and puts him in a kennel                | C. Max     |
| _____ 4. has a five o'clock shadow                                     | D. Jodi    |
| _____ 5. is George's friend in Pittsburgh                              | E. Liz     |
| _____ 6. buys board games  | F. Kim     |
| _____ 7. hates contact lenses  | G. Mike    |
| _____ 8. thinks April has broken up with Larry                         | H. Bram    |
| _____ 9. questions April at Disney World                               | I. George  |
| _____ 10. refuses Liz another orange juice drink                       | J. Abby    |
| _____ 11. explains how falsified documents help witnesses              | K. Larry   |
| _____ 12. dies after being released on bail                            | L. Rita    |
| _____ 13. demands a typewriter   | M. Tom     |
| _____ 14. abandons Valerie at the Christmas party                      | N. Jim     |
| _____ 15. doesn't want three people getting a license at the same time | O. Richard |

**Part II: True/False (20 points)**

Mark the following statements either **T** for true or **F** if any part is false.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Lorelei accuses April of being careless with the marked road map.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The man who answers the phone refuses to let April talk to Larry.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. When the flashlight slips into the drainage ditch, April uses her opportunity to bash the hitman with her tennis racket in the dark.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. With the wad of \$50 bills from Tom Geist, George buys the Zip-Pic.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. April is concerned after Larry notices that Bram has mismatched eyes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. At the Sarasota bus station, April calls Steve and her grandmother to announce her return to Norwood.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. "Jason's" tantrum at Disney World gives away "Val's" hiding place.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Old friends are already beginning to call Lorelei's residence before she and April can flee toward New England.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. The plea to spare April from claustrophobia works just as she planned.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. At the new location, April works at a Burger King while her father sells sporting goods temporarily over Christmas.

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**Part III: Completion (20 points)**

Fill in the blanks below with a word or phrase which completes the sentence. Place your answer in the space provided at left.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ involves himself in a trial for three and a half weeks as witness against Richard Loftin, with whom he traveled on business trips to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Corrigan's leave \_\_\_\_\_ with Lorelei, switch vehicles at the \_\_\_\_\_ Building, and depart to the Mayflower Hotel, where they must remain incommunicado.
3. In secret, April sends a \_\_\_\_\_ to Steve in a \_\_\_\_\_ envelope
4. Liz predicts that she will have difficulty around \_\_\_\_\_ and English teachers, who might recognize her from the acceptance speech she gave the previous year after winning the California \_\_\_\_\_ Medal.
5. At 3:00 A. M., the Corrigan's travel six miles from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ to register in a motel.

**Part IV: Essay (30 points)**

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Describe how April entertains herself in Florida.
2. Explain why Liz blames George for the family's predicament.
3. Compare Tom, Max, Rita, and Jim as law officers.
4. Account for April's rapid return from Norwood in the Porsche.
5. Summarize events that precede the final move into a second home and identity.

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**COMPREHENSION TEST B**

**Part I: Multiple Choice (20 points)**

Select the phrase that completes each of the following sentences. Place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Bram regrets that the family  
A. has to change their name to Weber.  
B. is leaving Porky.  
C. cannot swim at the Williamsburg motel.  
D. will never see Lorelei again.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. At the academy,  
A. April thinks of herself as a princess.  
B. Jodi is jealous of April's boyfriend.  
C. typing class is April's hardest subject.  
D. the counselor explains that the Corrigan's are leaving town.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The security guard  
A. recognizes the stalker as the deliveryman who broke Lorelei's arm.  
B. makes April get out of Steve's car before entering.  
C. asks April to step back from the door.  
D. refuses to let April in without Lorelei's permission.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Val shares a name with  
A. Larry's cousin.  
B. a character in *Song of the South*.  
C. Steve's former girlfriend.  
D. the flight attendant.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. April is unaware that  
A. Uncle Max cannot be trusted to protect them.  
B. a marshal serving as a bodyguard carries a gun.  
C. her father is a spy.  
D. Loftin's killer is Mike Vamp.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The arresting officer  
A. warns April about driving too fast.  
B. recognizes the danger that the black Camaro poses.  
C. thinks April is too young to be driving a Porsche.  
D. suggests that April cross the highway and turn north.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. The Corrigan's laugh at  
A. the dented Plymouth in the ditch.  
B. the Zip-Pic.  
C. Larry's rude remarks about female tennis players.  
D. the cockroach-infested house on Lemon Lane.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. George fears that  
A. Duke University is beyond his means.  
B. competition will put April's picture in the paper.  
C. attending a secondary school will ruin April's chances at a small Sarasota college.  
D. sitting together on the plane will identify the family as fugitives.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. After drinking too much,  
A. April admits to having a boyfriend in North Carolina.  
B. Larry falls on April and embarrasses her before Amy's friends.  
C. April throws up at home and awakens her parents.  
D. April gets the flu and stays in bed the next day.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Liz grows restless because she gives up  
A. a dishwasher and garbage disposer.  
B. a house near her mother.  
C. her writing career.  
D. an ermine stole and family photos.

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### Part II: Matching (30 points)

Match the following actions with places from the list below. Place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left.

- |                  |                        |                       |
|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| A. Pittsburgh    | F. Lemon Lane driveway | K. movie theater      |
| B. Amy's party   | G. Williamsburg        | L. Mayflower Hotel    |
| C. South America | H. plane               | M. counselor's office |
| D. Orange Avenue | I. Norwood             | N. Sarasota           |
| E. St. Augustine | J. Disney World        | O. attic              |

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Mike points a pistol at April.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Larry accuses April of lying about never being in Virginia.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Lorelei waits to take April home from school.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. April and Bram split up with their parents.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Richard and George load drugs into suitcases.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. George enjoys a spirited playmate in childhood.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. April writes a letter to her parents.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Mike stuffs Jim's body into a closet.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. April overhears rude remarks about her poor family.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. April and Lorelei elude Mike and spend the night here before journeying on to Grove City.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. The Corrigan reunite with George.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Steve seems less affectionate on meeting April.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. April locates a flashlight.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Abbey asks April personal questions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. April hears the sounds of tennis balls.

### Part III: Short Answer (20 points)

Supply a word or phrase in answer to the following questions. Place your response in the blank provided.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. What do Richard and Larry leave for airport staff to collect?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. How long do the Corrigan live in Florida?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Whose obituary surprises April?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. What is the boy buying at the mall?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Whom does Liz call after the shooting in the hall?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Where does a gunman shoot at George?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. With whom does April reverse roles?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. From where does Rita get transcripts?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. What does Bram leave in the attic?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Who originally narrated the stories of Br'er Fox and Br'er Rabbit?

### Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

- 1. Explain how and why marshals decide to protect the Corrigan.
- 2. Contrast Larry, Jodi, Kim, and Steve as friends of April.
- 3. Account for George's interest in spying.
- 4. Summarize the events after April returns from Amy's party.
- 5. Describe Jim's difficulties in dealing with the Corrigan at the Mayflower Hotel.

**DON'T LOOK BEHIND YOU**

**ANSWER KEY**

**VOCABULARY TEST**

- |                |                   |                  |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. recluse     | 6. despondently   | 11. egocentric   |
| 2. rife        | 7. condescending  | 12. reversal     |
| 3. civilities  | 8. vegetate       | 13. interrogated |
| 4. accentuated | 9. galleys        | 14. rite         |
| 5. formidable  | 10. instinctively | 15. contrite     |

**COMPREHENSION TEST A**

**Part I: Character Identification (30 points)**

- |      |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. K | 6. N  | 11. L |
| 2. J | 7. H  | 12. O |
| 3. A | 8. F  | 13. E |
| 4. G | 9. D  | 14. B |
| 5. C | 10. I | 15. M |

**Part II: True/False (20 points)**

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. F | 6. T  |
| 2. T | 7. F  |
| 3. F | 8. F  |
| 4. F | 9. T  |
| 5. T | 10. T |

**Part III: Completion (20 points)**

1. George Corrigan, South America
2. Porky, Federal
3. letter, Columbia Records
4. librarians, Young Readers
5. Richmond, Williamsburg

**Part IV: Essay (30 points)**

Answers will vary.

**COMPREHENSION TEST B**

**Part I: Multiple Choice (20 points)**

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. B | 6. A  |
| 2. A | 7. D  |
| 3. D | 8. B  |
| 4. C | 9. A  |
| 5. C | 10. C |

**Part II: Matching (30 points)**

- |      |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. F | 6. A  | 11. G |
| 2. B | 7. N  | 12. I |
| 3. M | 8. L  | 13. O |
| 4. J | 9. K  | 14. H |
| 5. C | 10. E | 15. D |

**Part III: Short Answer (20 points)**

- |                  |                            |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. two suitcases | 6. courtroom               |
| 2. three months  | 7. Lorelei                 |
| 3. Jim's         | 8. small school in Vermont |
| 4. prism         | 9. flashlight              |
| 5. Max           | 10. Uncle Remus            |

**Part IV: Essay (30 points)**

Answers will vary.



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