

“A Small, Good Thing” Characterization Worksheet

1. Two weeks after the incidents in the short story, you are looking out a window in your home, and you see a car stop at the curb. You recognize it as the car that hit Scotty and then left the scene. The driver gets out. Describe what he looks like and what he is wearing.
2. He is holding a briefcase of some kind. Describe the case and its contents.
3. Another person approaches. Describe his or her physical attributes and clothing.
4. You can't hear them through the window, but their lips are moving. Describe their gestures and the tone of their conversation. (Are they angry? Delighted to see each other? Secretive?)
5. You want to hear them, so you quietly open the window to listen. What are they saying?
6. The second person is leaving. What do they say in parting? (Will they meet again? Are they friends or enemies?)
7. The hit-and-run driver looks in your direction, and you realize that you know him. What is his occupation, and where have you met him before?
8. He sees you and calls to you. What is he saying?
9. You decide to leave your house and go talk with him. What do you say? How does he respond?
10. As you leave each other, you arrange a future meeting. What do you say about meeting again, and how do you say good-bye?