

Reflection Questions

Recall Toni Morrison's quote from earlier in the lesson:

I wanted the reader to be kidnapped, thrown ruthlessly into an alien environment as the first step into a shared experience with the book's population—just as the characters were snatched from one place to another, from any place to any other, without preparation or defense. (*Beloved*, xviii)

Now that you have finished reading the novel, reflect on her statement by answering these questions.

How effective was her attempt to throw you as a reader "into an alien environment"? How did this authorial choice affect your understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of the novel?

How did the visualizing and close reading activities help you compensate for the feeling of being "snatched from one place to another...without any preparation or defense"?