



STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 9-12

A Step from Heaven

An Na

READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

A Step from Heaven

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NOTE:

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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Name _____

Clue Search

Directions: Collect information about *A Step from Heaven* for each of the checked items. Write it down and then make some predictions for the book.

Information Source	Information Provided
Dedication	
Title	
Cover Illustration	
Teasers on the book cover or in the book jacket	
Friends' recommendations	
Reviewers' recommendations/awards won	

Your predictions for the book:

Name _____

6. *Activity: Write a metaphor or a simile poem about "Disappointment" or "Despair" in response to Young Ju's expressed hurt, "An ache deep and wide as the sea threatens to drown my heart."

Pages 125-141

1. *Explain the incident involving Young Ju's search of the trash can. How does Joon react? Why do you think this is significant?
2. What does Young Ju see on her mother's back? How does her mother explain? How does Young Ju respond?
3. What triggers Apa's violence the night Young Ju calls 911? Whom does he attack? What makes Young Ju finally call 911?
4. *Prediction: What will happen to Apa? to the family?
5. *Activity: Write a five-senses poem about "Fear."

Pages 142-156

1. *List the following causes and identify the effects: (1) Apa is arrested for beating Uhmma. (2) Apa is released but leaves with an Asian woman rather than return to his family. (3) The family's financial condition deteriorates. (4) Uhmma sees Young Ju preparing rice. (5) Apa returns to Korea.
2. *How does the family's life change after Apa returns to Korea? What do you think this indicates about the family?
3. When Young Ju and Uhmma look at old pictures, what does Young Ju learn about Uhmma and about Apa? What does Uhmma tell her about Apa? What is the result?
4. *Correlate the first vignette with pages 150-152. What does this reveal about Apa and Young Ju?
5. *Explain the significance of the epilogue's title, "Hands." What do Uhmma's hands reveal?
6. *Inference: What does the future hold for Uhmma? for Young Ju? for Joon?
7. *Activity: Bring to class pictures of hands. Create a class collage depicting the myriad types of hands.
8. *Activity: Write a short sequel explaining what has happened to Apa.

Name _____

Attribute Web

Directions: Create an attribute web for Young Ju, Apa, Uhmma, and Joon. You will need to trace the graphic on three other sheets of paper. As you read, feel free to add more categories of your own, additional notes, etc.

