



Discussion: "Leffingwell Elementary", Crisis, and Victory

Due: Jun 26, 2024 at 11:59pm - 24SU_ENG24_11730

39/41
Graded

9.37 / 10 (94%)
Average

1/41



✓ Amelia Stark



from Discussion: "Leffingwell Elementary", Crisis, and Victory

Jun 21, 2024 3:45AM



At the end of Firoozeh Dumas' story "Leffingwell Elementary", she ends the story with the confirmation that in America, "the bathrooms were clean and the people were very, very kind". This choice of ending shows a strong sense of hope despite the multiple points of crisis we see her experience throughout her first few days in America. By concluding that at least the bathrooms were clean and the people were kind, we're given a glimpse into her mentality surrounding her big move to Whittier California from Iran. Dumas displays for the reader that there is still victory to be had in her story, and she is hopeful for when it will come. This final sentence also shows her resiliently positive perspective, as she could have concluded that America was foreign and scary, or that it would take a long time to feel comfortable. Instead, she points out the wholesome qualities America has to offer, which is an intentional choice in her writing and conclusion. This is one of the ways she inspires hope in both the reader and herself that someday, somehow, there will be victory in her story.

from Discussion: "Leffingwell Elementary", Crisis, and Victory

Jun 26, 2024 3:27AM



Hi Danial,

Reading your perspective on the story is so helpful for understanding the authors intent since you yourself experienced something so similar! I like how you point out the existence of "heroes" in this story, that's not something I considered at first. It truly shows how small acts of kindness can create hope in someone's heart despite being in unfamiliar places. Repeatedly returning to her fathers description of America almost

Assessment

Grade out of 10

10

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Assignment Comments



Very nice points about "resilience" -
yes she chooses to focus on the positive aspect of the day, rather than the challenges!



Significantly, a theme in the story is that the narrative plays with the idea of being literally and metaphorically "lost" in the US as a new arrival

Sheiba Kian Kaufman, Jun 29, 2024 at 10:21pm



It is a funny mixture of the mundane (bathrooms) and the important (kindness) in this final sentence!



Sheiba Kian Kaufman, Jun 29, 2024 at 10:34pm