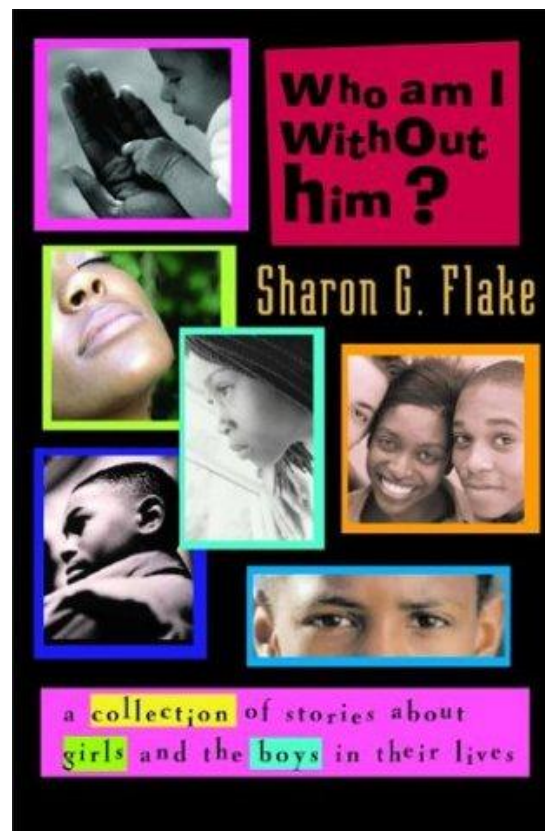


# Who am I Without Him?



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
ELA 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Group Color \_\_\_\_\_  
Job \_\_\_\_\_



## *Essential Understandings*

- *Who am I without the men in my life?*
- *Who are the men in my life without me?*
- *How much of MY identity is based on the men in my life?*

## **Chapter Summaries**

<i>So I Ain't No Good Girl</i>	<i>The Ugly One</i>
<i>Wanted: A Thug</i>	<i>I Know a Stupid Boy When I See One</i>

*Mookie in Love*

*Don't Be Disrespecting Me*

*I Like White Boys*

*Jacobs's Rule*

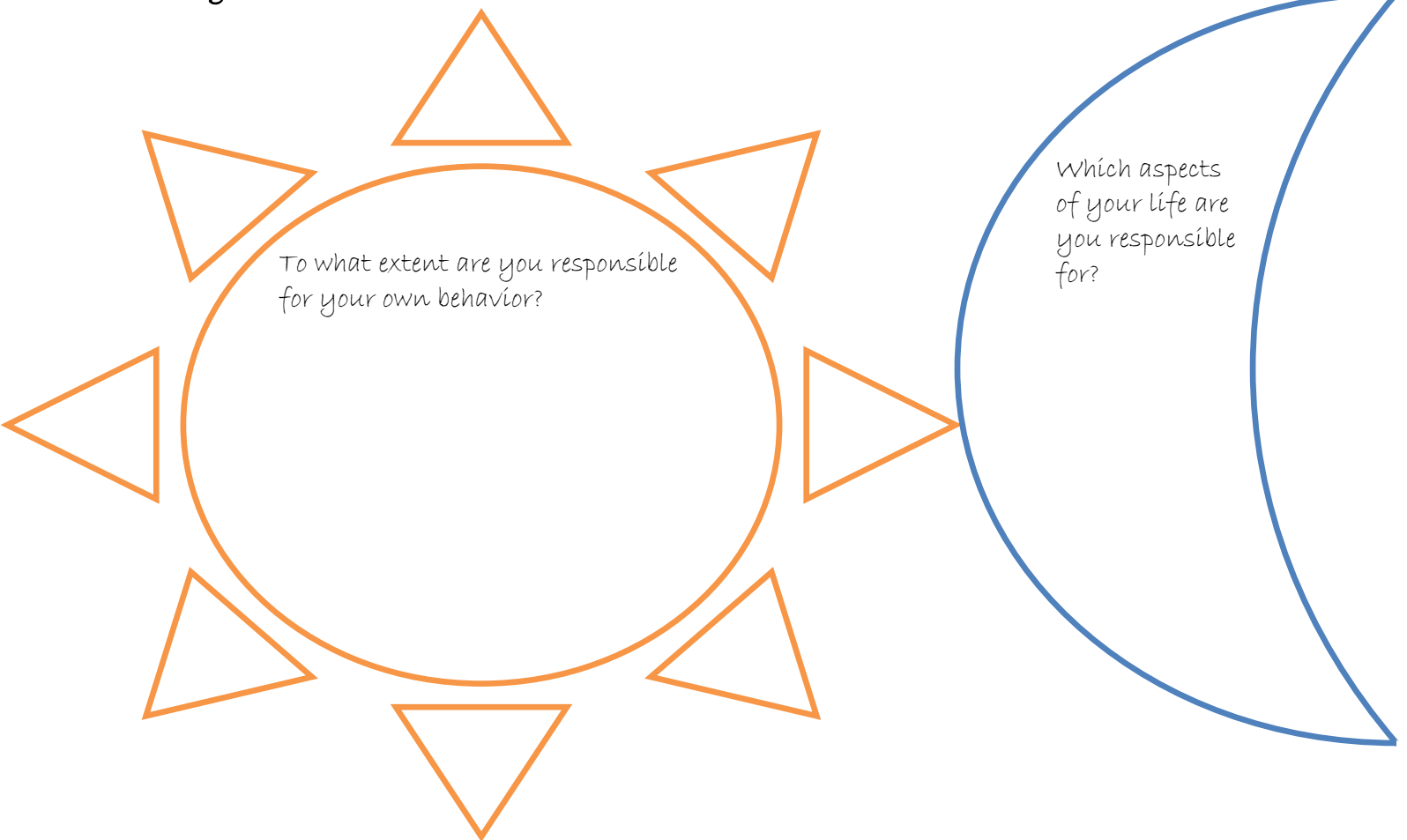
*Hunting for Boys*

*A Letter to My Daughter*

"So I Ain't No Good Girl"

1. Why does Raheem treat her this way?
2. What kind of marriage do you think this girl will have someday? Why?

### Big Questions



Who would she be without him (Raheem)?

By the same token, who is Raheem without her? How badly does he need her to maintain his sense of self?

How well could either of these people stand alone?

Why do girls with low self-esteem sometimes implant themselves in abusive relationships?

Why do boys with low self-esteem sometimes need someone to bully to identify themselves?

*"The Ugly One"*

1. *Did you agree with Barley when he said, "Just 'cause you ugly, don't mean you can't have friends?"*
2. *Do you think Aria's fantasy life is healthy or not?*

Who would Aria be without Ramon?

Why do girls with low self-esteem sometimes live in a fantasy life rather than trying to change their reality?

How does this remind you of Destiny and Romi?

*"Wanted: A Thug"*

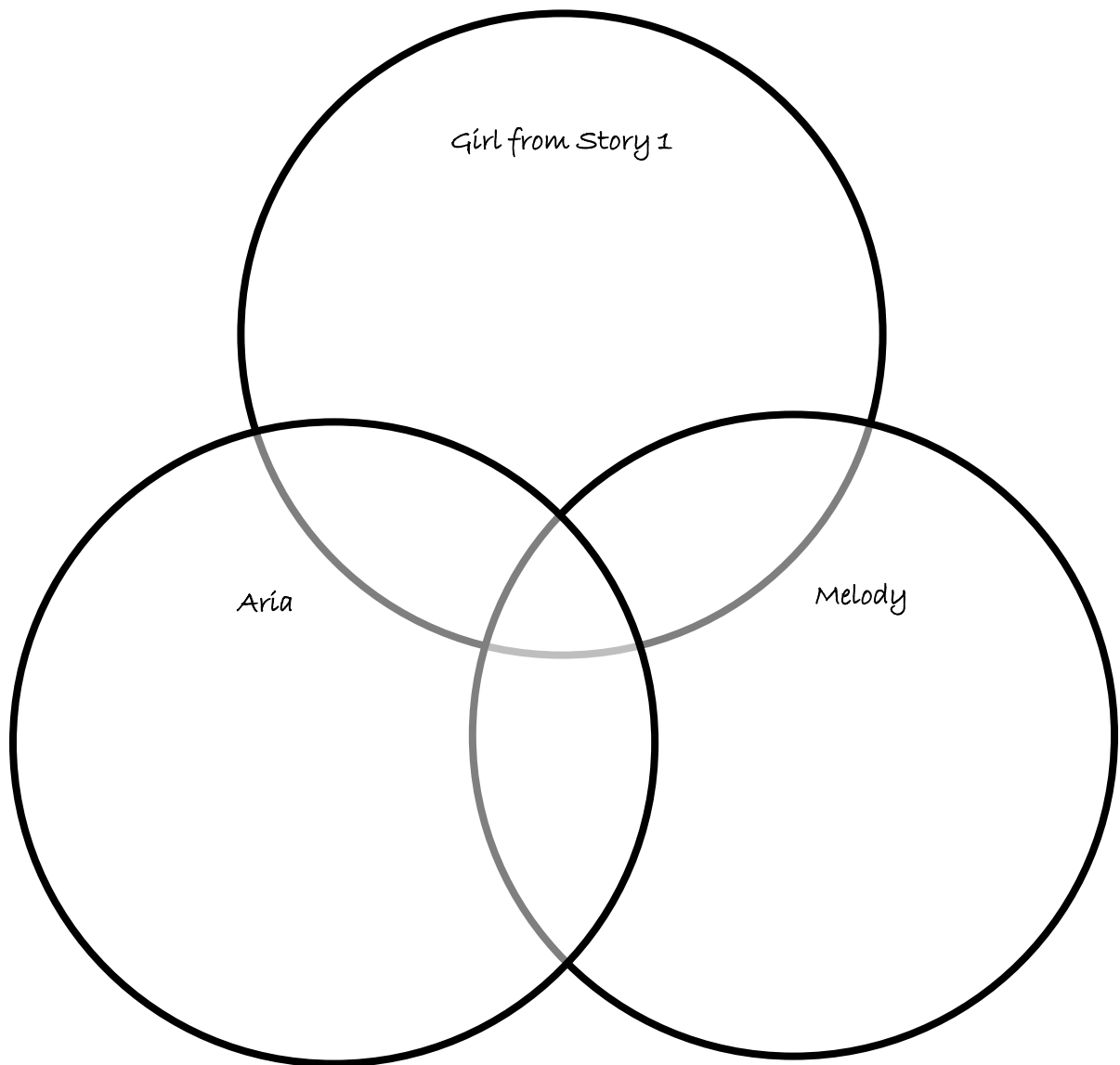
1. *Would girls be this vicious in your school?*
2. *Would it be deserved?*

Have you ever chased after a guy you knew you couldn't have? How did it end? *(If you answered no, have you ever thought about chasing after a guy you knew you couldn't have? Why didn't you?)*

Can you trust your friends with your man? Why or Why not?

Can you trust your man with your friends? Why or Why Not?

Compare the characters of the first three stories to one another. How are they the same? How are they different? List some similar and dissimilar character traits they share.



*"I Know a Stupid Boy When I See One"*

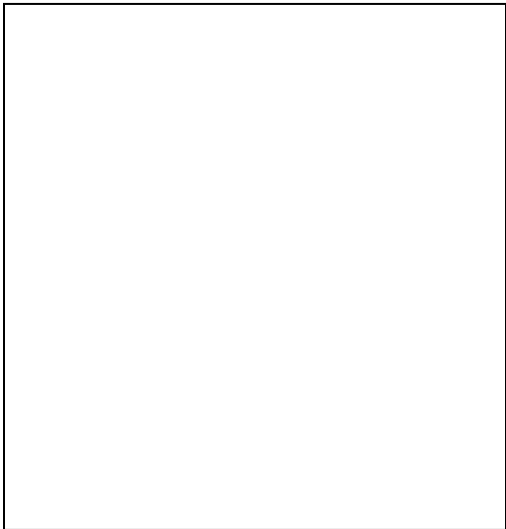
- 1. Discuss this quote: "I like boys like him...Slow, stupid boys. They give you anything you want, and you ain't hardly gotta do nothing to get it neither." What does this reveal about her character? Does this contribute to what happens to her in the end?*
- 2. Did the ending surprise you? What did you think of it?*

**Create a Wanted Ad for your ideal man.**

# **WANTED ALIVE!**

Physical Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Personality Traits: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Also known as (AKA): \_\_\_\_\_

Specific acts include: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Suspect last seen: \_\_\_\_\_ Favorite hangout(s) \_\_\_\_\_

If found, please \_\_\_\_\_

---

# **REWARD**



In your wanted ad, why did you list those particular traits?

Do you think you will ever find a person who meets all of your expectations?

Which ones would you be willing to compromise on?

*"Mookie in Love"*

1. *Have you ever seen a family conspire against someone's relationship?*

2. *Would your family ever find a reason to do this?*

3. *Describe the family of aunts when they get together. Do they remind you of your family in any way? How?*

Compare this story and plot to that of *Romiette and Julio*. How are they alike? How are they different?

<i>Mookie in Love</i>	<i>Romiette and Julio</i>
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.

*"Don't Be Disrespecting Me"*

1. *What was E's first mistake?*

2. *What choices did he have?*

*"I Like White Boys"*

- 1. Discuss this quote: "But do I only get to like boys that look like me? Or can I be like girls who look like Wendy, and get to pick any boy I want?"*
- 2. Where do you think Erika got her idea about what beauty is?*
- 3. Can these ideas and influences ever be overcome? How?*

*"Jacobs's Rules"*

- 1. Would you like to see this experiment done in your own school? Why or why not?*
- 2. Who, do you think, learned the most from this experiment?*

Tyrek has an interesting view of men and women. Explain his theory. Do you agree or disagree? Do you know guys who think like this? Explain.

What types of girls fall for guys like Tyrek and the others in this chapter? What does this say about them as women?



Which of the stories do you personally identify with the most? Why is that?

Reflect and answer our essential understanding questions.

*Who am I without the men in my life?*

*Who are the men in my life without me?*

*How much of MY identity is based on the men in my life?*