



Discovery Project Paper

Because I like to draw I could see the characters and the scenes in my head as I read this book. That's why I chose art for my project. I put a lot of details in my drawings. When I started my collage of drawings I realized it was hard to draw sparks so, I used glue and eraser shavings to make it look like they were flying in the air. Also, for my hurricane drawing I used glue and lead shavings.

Empty is the title of my book. The drawing of the old gas pump is the big idea of this story. The gas pump has the word *Empty* on it because there is not a lot of gas in the world when this book takes place. One gallon of gas is one hundred dollars! There is rust on the gas pump because it was outdated in the book. All things were outdated because they didn't have enough gas to ship the new resources to Sage Valley and Marietta where the characters of the book lived.

Another important drawing is the person with their pocket inside out. The reason I drew this is few people were rich. They didn't have money because it was hard for people to get jobs. Companies went out of business because there is a shortage of gas. They couldn't get the supplies they needed for their businesses. Also people are spending all of their money on gas so they couldn't buy anything else.

The characters of the book are Gwen, Niki, and Tom. Gwen is not that popular at her school and is not that attractive either. Her mom left her and her brother, Luke, for her boyfriend. Her brother is older so of course he thinks he is the boss. Her older brother can't get much money so he sells illegal gas and gets resources from his mine. Gwen still has potential though. She has a secret crush on Tom. Every afternoon she will go on her neighbor's roof and spy on him.

Tom, on the other hand likes Niki. Tom is on the school's football team. His dad died when he was young so he is very hard working and is really supportive of his mom. He wants to impress Niki by trying to fix his dad's old truck so he can ask her to the high school bonfire. This bonfire is a celebration between the Sage Valley high school and Marietta high school. Niki says yes, but Tom still needs money for gas. Lots of it. That car is an old gas guzzler and won't get him far.

Niki is very popular but she has a secret. Her family is getting very poor lately and can't afford her new contacts. The night of the bonfire, her dad can't find a job so he gets very angry and yells at her and her mother. He is so mad that he throws all the family picture frames into the fire. He is out of control so Niki leaves and goes to the bonfire with Tom without her glasses.

The bonfire scene was exciting. Niki was very close to the fire because she couldn't see. She told Tom she was cold just so he didn't know about her glasses. Tom left her by herself. At the same time, the Marietta students started to vandalize the cars and Tom's truck. They were stealing the gas! All Niki could hear was glass breaking and someone screaming, "Stop! Stop it you're going to kill him!" She asked someone what was going on and the person panted "The stupid Marietta kids are stealing our gas and breaking our cars!" She said something else but Niki couldn't hear. She panicked and asked her friend to take her home because she couldn't find Tom.

The next scene when Gwen's house burns down is very important in the book. Tom runs away from the bonfire. Gwen's on the neighbor's roof. Gwen jumped off and the roof and noticed that Tom had a black eye. She was going to her house to fix his eye up. Tom realizes that he lives right by Gwen. Gwen feels sad because he didn't notice her earlier. Then Gwen saw her mom there and a box in her hand. She turned the corner and saw her house on fire. She froze for a moment and then ran to her mom and asked, "Did you call the fire department?" her mom nodded. Then she asked louder this time, "Where's Luke?" Her mom told her he was okay. After a while she calmly asked, "Are you okay?" her mom silently nodded repeatedly. When I read that part of the book I thought, why didn't she ask her mom if she was okay first? I would have if I was her but her mom has been away for a year and a half now. She probably didn't have the same feelings for her than before. Tom was very surprised and he felt sad about what had happened. Gwen did too. Then she said "Tom I'm have to disappear" but Tom was confused and before he could turn around and answer, Gwen was gone. The empty box I drew symbolizes Gwen, and Luke being lost or gone after her house burnt down.

The hurricane that I drew was one of the scenes in my book. A few days after Gwen's house burns down, there was a "super-hurricane." They named it OscPearl because it was the mixture of hurricane Oscar and hurricane Pearl. It was the worst hurricane in the history of hurricanes. Gwen is homeless so she is hiding in her brother's mine. Tom and Niki stay in their house. During the storm Gwen gets trapped! A tree falls on the door of the mine. She screams as loud as she can during the eye of the storm, but she cannot get out. Hungry, she takes the emergency flashlight and batteries and goes in the mine.

My drawing has a clock that has wings. That symbolizes time flying. That means all of this happened really fast. The world ran out of gas very fast. Gwen and Luke lose their home very fast. They don't get resources from other places that happened in such a small amount of time. All of the gas in the world is gone and it didn't take that long. All of these things happen so fast and Tom, Niki and Gwen don't even realize it.

The big idea of this book is to live life to the fullest. Even when the characters did not have much money or resources, they didn't give up. Tom took chances to make his life better and still believed in himself despite his circumstances. Niki wasn't afraid to let go of people she loved in order to be happy. Gwen was a fighter and didn't care what other people thought of her, she just lived life the way it was meant to be.