**Short Story: “Charles”**

**Part 1:**

Writer’s Notebook Assignment: Use the space below to answer the following questions.

Describe what you were like when you were 5 years old. How did you feel about going to kindergarten? Did you like it/not? What did you like/dislike about kindergarten? Describe your kindergarten teacher?

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Part 2: Read the attached short story and answer the attached questions.

**“Charles”**

Answer all the questions on a separate piece of paper and in complete sentences.

1. Who is the story’s protagonist/antagonist?

2. Why is the identity of the protagonist/antagonist ironic?

3. What is the story’s setting? (Time/Place)

4. Who is Charles?

5. Explain why you believe Laurie made up the character?

6. What does it mean to be “fresh”?

7. Did you have the ending of the story figured out early? Why/why not?

8. Did you like the ending or were more details needed? Why?

9. Compare the punishments Laurie/Charles received to those a child today might receive for the same behaviours. Do you believe the discipline he received was fair? Why/why not?

10. The story is written from the mother’s point of view. Choose at least 2 paragraphs from the story and rewrite them from Laurie/Charles’ point of view.

**OR**

11. Write a journal/diary entry from the mother’s point of view now that she has found out there isn’t a child named Charles in her son’s class.