

Reader's Guide to Small Moments: A Child's Memories of the Civil Rights Movement

How was Amelia regarded differently in New Jersey as opposed to Tennessee?

How does the story show that racism hurts all people?

How was physical punishment by parents regarded at the time of the story? Now?

How did the Civil Rights Movement change things for those in similar situations to Amelia's?

What did Mary mean when she said either she or her father had to disappear?

Give some examples of how Amelia sustained the family, beyond cooking and cleaning. What sustained Amelia?

How do you view the mother's relationship with Amelia?

What part did Amelia's church play in her experience in New England? What does it show about the role of African American churches in the Civil Rights movement?

How is classism seen among whites in the story? And among blacks?

Did Northerners tend to view unfavorable race relations as a problem mainly existing in the South? Why do you suppose that was?

Are race relations better today? If so, how? If not, what can be done?