

### GRADES 9-12

## Cold Sassy Tree

Olive Ann Burns

READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

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Olive Ann Burns

### STUDENT PACKET

### NOTE:

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website.

Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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### **Vocabulary List**

sloven (3)	genteel (3)	beau (11)	milliner (16)
testimonial (23)	diplomat (29)	suffragette (32)	feisty (33)
reverent (55)	condolences (60)	conniption (62)	sanctified (65)
streak-a-lean (65)	puncheon (65)	bereaved (67)	levitation (69)
coroner (80)	siding (82)	trestle (88)	

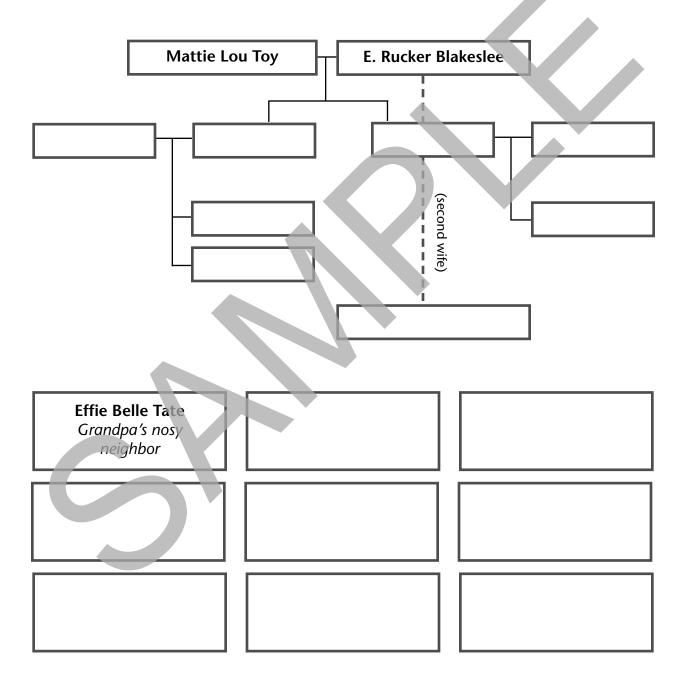
**Directions:** Use the words from the list to fill in the boxes below.

A. Words Used to Describe How a Person Might Act or Feel	B. Nouns Which Refer to What a Person Is, Does, or Acts Like

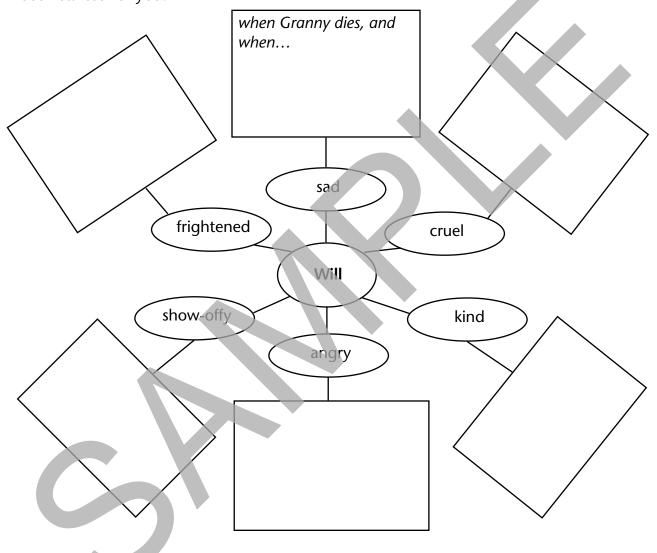
C. Nouns Which Refer to Inanimate Objects	D.

D. Nouns Which Denote Action		

**Directions:** At the top of the page is a diagram for a family tree for Will's family. Fill in the diagram as you read the novel. Then, at the bottom of the page, add other characters who figure importantly in the story. Under each one, jot a brief identifier (see example).



**Directions:** We get to know Will better and better as he describes what life is like for a 14-year-old boy in Cold Sassy, Georgia. In the diagram below, fill in the boxes with examples of incidents when Will experiences the feelings in the circles. The diagram has been started for you.



**Directions:** Write a brief answer for each question. Use your completed study questions to prepare for class discussion and to review for quizzes and your final test.

### **Chapters 1-7**

- 1. What is the narrator's name? How old is he at the time he is telling the story? In what town is the story set?
- 2. How do Aunt Loma and Mary Willis react to Grandpa's announcement?
- 3. How do you picture Queenie? What was it like for African-Americans in 1906 in Georgia?
- 4. What disturbing news does Hoyt bring home at lunchtime? What new light is shed on the scandal, from Mama's point of view?
- 5. What is the attitude in Cold Sassy toward women who work? Do you think that attitude was common everywhere in 1906? How has that kind of thinking changed?
- 6. What is Grandpa's store like? Who works there, and what do they do?
- 7. Why doesn't Will like Aunt Loma?
- 8. What did most Cold Sassy residents think about Grandpa and Miss Love getting married?
- 9. What was Granny Blakeslee like? Did Grandpa really love her?