

WEEK 2 WRITING PROMPTS

Elementary:

- Not everyone has a bed to sleep in. Diya and her family had to sleep on the floor when they were in slavery. Would it be comfortable to sleep on your floor every night?
- When you are scared, how do you make yourself feel brave?
- Diya's family was forced to do the same work every day. How do you think they felt? What do you think Diya wanted to do instead of work?
- When Diya and her family were free, they could choose what to do every day. What is your perfect day?



Upper Elementary:

- Diya describes having to lay on a sleeping mat with her parents on the floor of a small shack. Describe your bedroom. Do you have to share it with anyone? Do you have the room to yourself? What other objects are around your room?
- Diya went months without seeing her friends. This might be the longest time you have gone without seeing your friends in person. How does that feel? Write about the first thing you will do with your friends when you get to see them again.

Junior High:

- Sometimes people can be trapped in slavery for weeks, months, even years. Every survivor processes the experience of being brought to freedom in their own way. Why might someone feel fear? Joy? Sadness? What other emotions might someone experience when they are freed?
- Brave people throughout history have spoken up and acted to end slavery and injustice around the world. Who are brave people in your life who try to make the world a better place? What makes them special to you?
- Do you think you have the power to make a difference in your community or your country? Why or why not?

RESEARCH PROMPT:

Find three quotes from influential figures throughout history that contain the word "freedom." What did freedom mean to each of these historic men and women? How is their view of freedom similar or different from what you imagine Diya's view of freedom is?

CREATIVE WRITING PROMPTS:

Respond to Diya's story through poetry. Write a poem about the meaning of freedom, or write a poem inspired by Diya's transformation from being trapped to being set free.

Imagine what it was like for Diya's family to send her back to school with her friends. Write a short story (1-2 pages) from the perspective of her parents as they send her off to school for the first time in freedom.