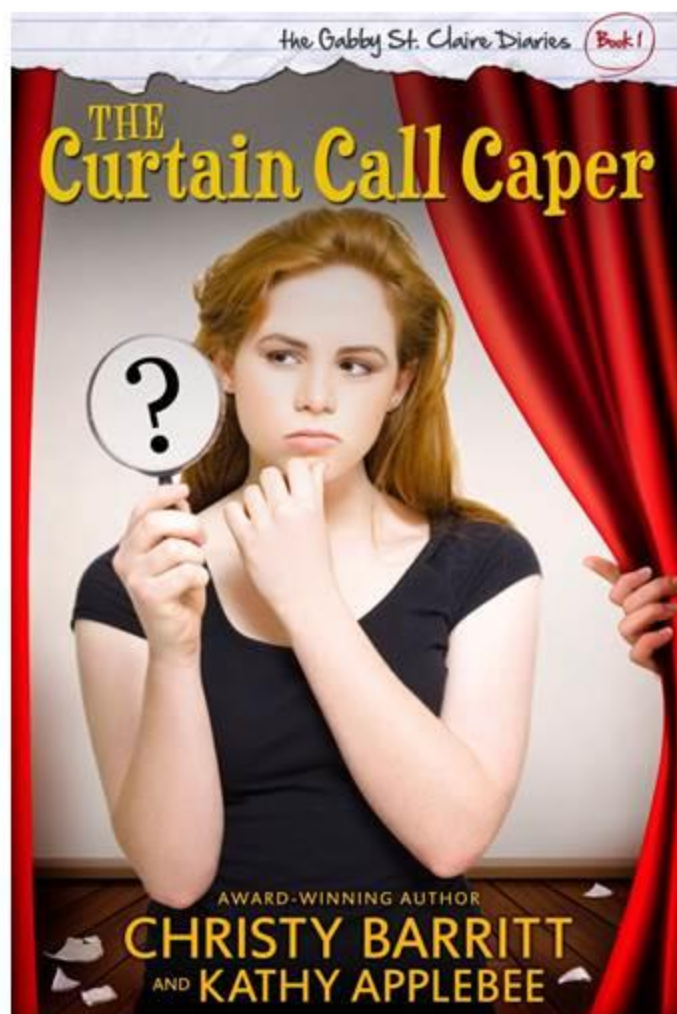


Figurative language and journaling prompts





Ebook version is currently
(March 20, 2014)
available on Amazon for
\$0.99 (for a limited time)
Paperbacks available in
April.

http://www.amazon.com/Curtain-Caper-Gabby-Claire-Diaries-ebook/dp/B00J40WBKE/ref=sr_1_26?ie=UTF8&qid=1395330493&sr=8-26&keywords=christy+barritt

Journaling

"I shuffled toward the voice, unsure of how close to the edge of the stage I was, and considering which would be worse: the humiliation of falling off the stage or the hurt."

Which would you find worse about falling off the stage: the physical pain or the humiliation?

Chapter 1 - reading between the lines



"Madame Cherise probably been a music teacher in another life, back before the piano or French was invented." What does this imply?

... a gentlemen, like Captain Von Trapp in The Sound of Music or Ashley Wilkes in Gone with the Wind.

Who are these men? What is the Sound of Music? Gone with the wind?

I glanced up at the lights. Big mistake. They shone like the summer sun at the nearby oceanfront.

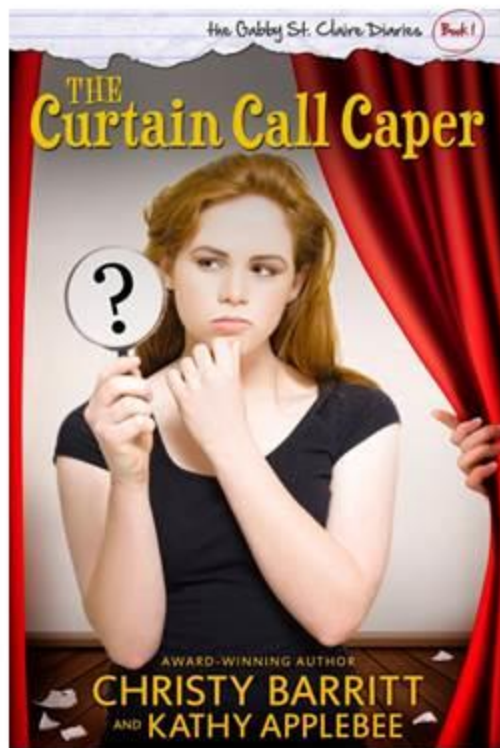
What type of figurative language is used above?

Chapter 2

Journaling

...”throb like the heavy bass notes blaring six out of seven nights from my neighbor’s subwoofer speakers.”

What does this imply about Gabby’s pain?
About her neighborhood?



“Reality was much more interesting than fiction sometimes.”
Agree or disagree?
Why or why not?

“ ... the spotlight was no accident, that the whole incident had been planned. Why would someone have deliberately made that light fall?” Brainstorm a list of 4-5 possible reasons why someone might do that.

Chapter 3

Figurative language

“...some bozo had stuck the FACS (Family and Consumer Science) class on the exact opposite side of the school, **at least forty miles** from any seventh grade core classes.” What type of figurative language is the portion in red?

“Her voice **grated like nails on a chalkboard**” What type of figurative language is in red?

“**With the stealth of a panther**, I closed the door soundlessly.” What does the portion in red imply?

“I could be derailed **as easily as a cheap toy train on an uneven floor.**” What type of figurative language is the portion in red?

“... since the Oceanside cafeteria noise was **ten decibels louder than a jackhammer.**” What type of figurative language is the portion in red?



Chapter 4



Journal

“I was about to mention my mouth was coated with super glue peanut butter” Is this figurative or literal? How do you know? How could you say the same thing using a simile?

How are the phrases in red related: “I hated to be the **bearer of bad news**, but that wasn’t going to happen. I nudged my BFF’s knee so she could be the **harbinger of doom**.”

People sit by clique at OMS. Describe how people sit at your school and your opinion on that system.

What is karma? Do you believe in it? Why or why not?

If best friends both have a crush on the same person, how should they work it out? Predict how Gabby and Becca will work it out.

Chapters 5-7

Journal

“...sensible tan loafers clump-clump-clumping like cow hooves”

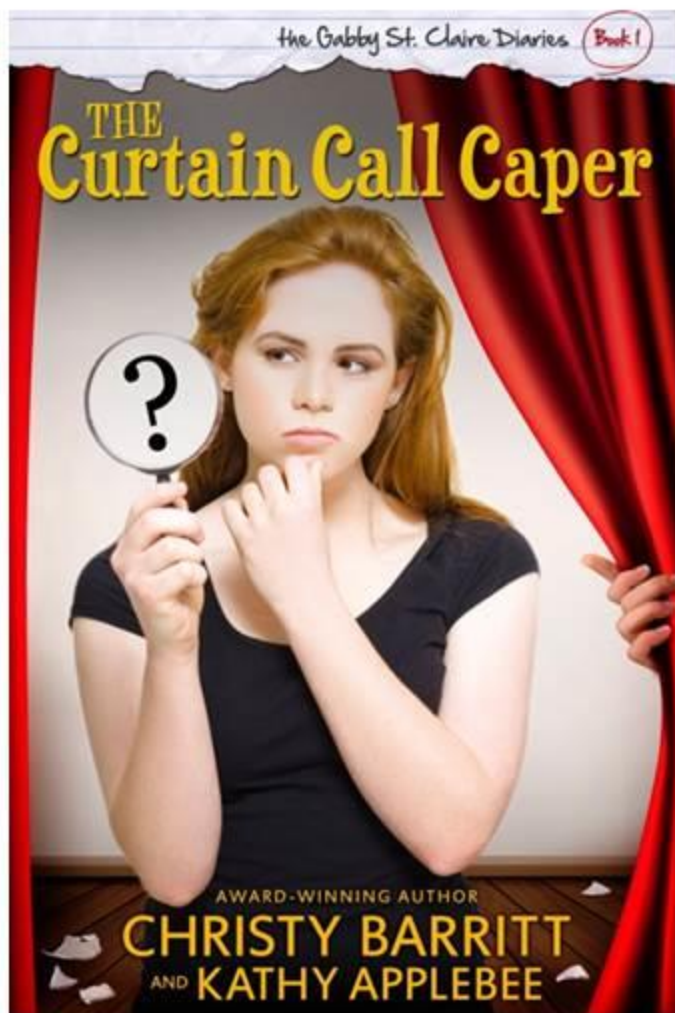
What two types of figurative language are used in this passage?

“Madame Cherise shook Mr. Zollin’s hand like it was a pump handle.” In this passage?

“... explained in front of her entire flock of fawning sixth grade flatterers.”

In this passage?

“Sisters before misters”
Agree or disagree?
Why?



Chapters 8-10

Journal

“The line in the office was about ten miles long”

“The realization that I’d been duped slammed into me like an eighteen-wheeler.”

“Guilt and I were getting to be good buddies.”

What type of figurative language is used in the above quotes from chapter 10?



Compare and contrast Gabby's or Becca's parents with your own or what you would consider perfect parents. Find at least 3 similarities and two differences.

How honest should you be with a BFF? When shouldn't you be honest?

Was Gabby right or wrong to forge a parents' signature? Why do you think that?

Chapters 11-15



Journal

““Apparently most of us were cast, not because of our amazing acting ability or dazzling dancing,”
“convening a cluster of custodians”

“smoothly she’d let her secrets slip”

“ I screamed and jumped back, nearly falling over the fake fence that was part of the scenery.”

What type of figurative language is used in the above quotes?

“Mitch ... was looking like a cumulo-nimbus cloud about to thunder.” Describe someone’s expression and body language that looks like the cloud above OR describe a time when you felt like that kind of cloud. What caused your feelings? How did the situation resolve?

Gabby makes up words like ‘brance’, a combination of Brandon and trance. Create 1-2 words of your own and describe how and why you did.

Chapters 16-19

Journal

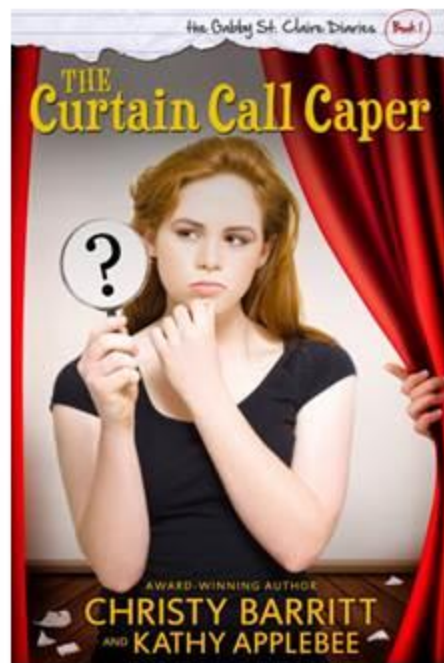
“ ...The houses alone probably cost something close to the Gross National Product of Uruguay”

What figurative language is being used?

Describe a time when you were accused of doing something you didn't do. Be sure to include the who, what, where, when, how and why.

Describe a time when your parents asked for your help. How did you respond? Would you do the same thing again?

Create a conversation between 2 cars that share a garage.





Chapters 20-24

Journal

"I was about to say something obnoxious about him sleeping more than Rip Van Winkle when it hit me like a dodge ball in gym class."

"The tears I'd bravely held at bay all weekend poured out like a gushing fire hydrant."

"I figured the Diva would drop a few casually caustic comments about cleaning"

"I sent my sixth grade servants scurrying"

Who was Rip Van Winkle? What type of figurative language is in the quotes above?

Kid's rooms: should they be off limits to parents? Why or why not?

In the beginning of chapter 24, Gabby goes through a list of adjectives she'd like to apply to her. Either sort them into Yes & No categories as they might apply to you OR brainstorm a list of the top 10 adjectives you'd with which you would like others to describe you.

“Who knew what the next thirteen or thirty would hold? Not me. I felt overwhelmed and powerless now. How much worse would it be in high school or as an adult? How did people manage to grow up without giving up?”

“Being popular, smart, pretty and athletic didn’t always last, didn’t guarantee you a happy adulthood or success or anything. Was there any point to being popular in school? Was there any point in life?”

“How was I supposed to go on with life when everything seemed against me? ... Someone who had successfully navigated adolescence? Did anyone? Or did grown-ups just put on an act? What made anybody successful? Happy?”

Gabby asks some heavy duty questions. Choose one or two and do your best to answer her. OR List 1-2 people you’d advise her to talk to and why the person(s) would be good choices.



Chapter 25-end

Journal

“...I felt like a bug under the microscope.”

“Teachers ... assigned us seats like traffic cops directing cars.”

“I could feel Paulette shuddering like a leaf in a hurricane”

What type of figurative language is in the quotes above?

“Paulette had leaned over and whispered. “I’m not my dad. You aren’t yours.”

Which parent are you most like? How do you feel about that? Do you want a child who takes after you? Why or why not?

