

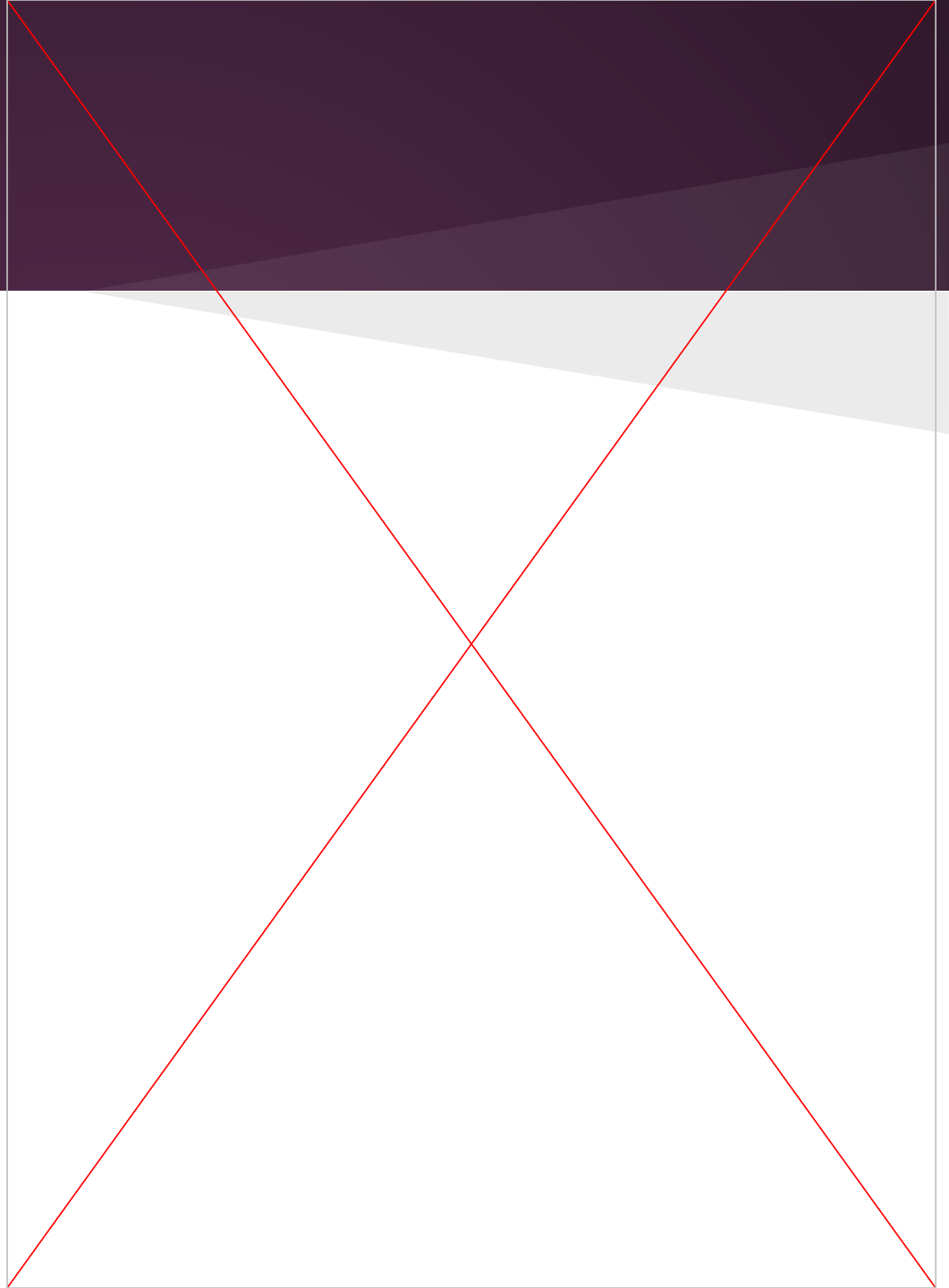
# Notice & Note

*Strategies for Close Reading*  
by *Kylene Beers & Robert E. Probst*

*Presentation prepared at the MN Writing Project*  
*by Elisabeth Charboneau, Abby Rombalski,*  
*Merrily Wolters (2013)*

# Introduction

Kylene Beers  
and  
Robert E. Probst



# Signposts

- 1. Contrasts and Contradictions**
- 2. Aha Moment**
- 3. Tough Questions**
- 4. Words of the Wiser**
- 5. Again and Again**
- 6. Memory Moment**

# Contrasts and Contradictions

A sharp contrast between what we would expect and what we observe the character doing; behavior that contradicts previous behavior or well-established patterns

Clues:

A character behaves or thinks in a way we don't expect, or an element of a setting is something we would not expect.

Look for Contrasts and Contradictions in Lise Erdrich's "Beehive" Short Story

# Contrasts and Contradictions

*Look for a character who behaves or thinks in a way we don't expect.*

from Lise Erdrich's "Beehive" (in *Night Train*)

[A husband and wife on their honeymoon.]

They went inside and sat down. The waitress had a high teased burnt-orange hairdo. "That's why it's called the Beehive State," the bride whispered, but her husband needed the joke explained. The bride felt suddenly cold. She felt this in the pit of her stomach, without even taking a sip of her ice water, which she had raised to her lips but set back down on the red-and-white checkered tablecloth.

# Contrasts and Contradictions

(Possible teacher script)

*I'm stopping because I notice a character acting in a way that surprised me. When authors show us a character doing or feeling something that contradicts what we expect, we need to stop and ask ourselves...*

Anchor Question

Why would the character act or feel this way?

# Contrasts and Contradictions

*Now you try it.*

It was not the first time she had noticed something missing in his mind. This realization, combined with the matching pattern of the table and curtains, caused her to shake violently. He ignored this and studied the menu as if it contained more significant clues. She gripped her knees to still herself. Her thoughts buzzed in panic.

## Anchor Question

Why would the character act or feel this way?

Think, Pair, Share.

# Anchor Questions

## Contrasts and Contradictions

Why would the character act (feel) this way?

## Aha Moment

How might this change things?

## Tough Questions

What does this question make me wonder?

## Words of the Wiser

What's the life lesson and how might it affect the character?

## Again and Again

Why might the author bring this up again and again?

## Memory Moment

Why might this memory be important?



# Strengths and Weaknesses

## **Strengths:**

Field-Tested, Lesson Ready with Strong YA Texts, Guided Release of Responsibility

**Weakness:** Needs further application for informational texts. Might trick you into thinking these strategies are too simple..calm down. Kids will notice critical sections of text ask brilliant high level questions.

# Teach, use, and then move on!

**AUTHOR'S HOPE, restated again from page 6:**

**"... [to] empower readers to struggle successfully and productively with texts on their own..."**

**Questions?**

**What else are you eager to know?**

Confusing Point: Note and Notice are Synonyms in the Dictionary? It is true that you can use the verb note in the same way you use notice. For example, the cat has noted an insect. / The cat has noticed the insect. However, this is a secondary meaning in my opinion, and most North Americans would say that the cat "noticed the insect" to say that the cat has seen something new. If I were you, I would forget that note and notice can be synonyms " keep them separated.