



CARNIVAL

a story about stepping out
of your comfort zone



Student Handout

A couple of questions

Q1: What was the narrator fed up with? (hint: it's in the top half of the second page)

Q2: What did the homeless man do to make the narrator feel nervous? (3 things)

Vocabulary look

These 5 items are in the story. If you know what they mean, think of how you can explain them, especially in terms of how they relate to something in the story. If you aren't familiar with them, look at the sentences and the context they are in and try to figure them out.

- to take somebody up on something (line 22)
- to back out (of something) (line 26)
- kind of (+ adjective/adverb/noun/verb) (line 36)
- to be down on one's luck (line 101)
- to soften the blow (in the afterword)

Discussion

The narrator stepped out of his comfort zone a few times in the story:

- a) when he decided to go on his trip alone,
- b) when he decided to leave the holiday he had planned (Carnival in Quebec City) to go to Montreal, and
- c) when he took on the temporary responsibility of looking out for the homeless man.

What would you have done in each of these situations?



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