***Dance in the Shadow* Kit**

**Appendix 3: Questions for Students on PDF 3--Grade 10 and 11 Arts (Dance)**

After working with ***Revel in the Light*** and the short video ***I Can Dance!!!*** (Pdfs and Appendices 1 and 2), view the dance video ***First Encounter***.

**Questions on *First Encounter***

For reflection: What do you think is happening for SarahAnn? For Rebecca? What are some of the sub-themes?

Dance A.2: Analyze the ***First Encounter*** video using dance vocabulary. How are the elements of the dance used to convey messages and ideas? Construct your own personal interpretation of ***First Encounter*** using dance terminology. What story does it tell? What message(s) does it convey? Is it effective? Explain your answer.

**Additional questions on** ***First Encounter***:

1. In the first 30 seconds SarahAnn speaks of her experience dancing with Rebecca. How do you think Rebecca would describe this same experience? (You may want to replay this opening section.)

2. What does respect look like? How does SarahAnn show that she respects Rebecca? How does Rebecca show she respects SarahAnn?

3. SarahAnn says, “We collaborated on the dance.” What does “collaboration” mean? How do you suppose they collaborated?

4. Why is the title “First Encounter”?

5. How does the dance symbolize a first encounter? How is the progression in the relationship shown?

6. How is SarahAnn a leader in this clip? Given Rebecca’s gifts and talents, how is she a leader as well?

7. How can/do you use your gifts and talents collaboratively to help others?

8. At the end of the dance, SarahAnn puts her head on Rebecca’s shoulder. What does this signify in your opinion?

**To Ponder:** *The essential thing in every meeting is trust: I trust you, and you trust me.*Jean Vanier

**Questions on the other dance videos**

***Gratitude*** (8 min.)

1. Rebecca is not able to express herself in words because the type of cerebral palsy she has does not give her much muscle control of her voice and face. For example, smiling is difficult for her. But she can express joy and displeasure by sounds. What do you think her silence means in this video?

2. How does the video teach about gratitude?

3. What are some of the challenges and opportunities when working with dancers with special needs?

4. What effect do the dancers achieve by positioning themselves below Rebecca? By rolling across the floor themselves as they roll Rebecca’s wheelchair?

***Massey Hall Dance*** (6 min.)

1. How does Rebecca’s involvement in the dance become apparent?

2. Was there a moment in the dance that especially touched you? Why?

3. At the end of the dance, a speaker calls this “a celebration against all odds.” (a) What do you think he means? (b) What do you think should be the role of dance in challenging society’s values and perceptions? (c) Is this important? Why or why not?

***You Raise Me Up*** (4:30 min.)

1. What role do the two scarves play?

2. What is the significance of the song in this video? Who is being raised up?

**View one or both of the 5-minute video clips by Rebecca’s dance partners: Anna Bruno and Heryka Miranda** (Click on SCENES to finds these on the DVD-ROM)

* The Anna Bruno clip focuses mainly on the development of her friendship with Rebecca over several years since they came to know each other in high school.
* The Heryka Miranda clip focuses more on choreography.

**Questions for either of these videos:**

1. What struck you about Anna’s or Heryka’s account of getting to know Rebecca and their description of their relationship with Rebecca?

2. What might you carry of their experience into opportunities you may have (now or in the future), to relate to someone who communicates differently or uses a wheelchair?

**General Arts questions: View any of the dances in the *Dance in the Shadow* kit. Then respond to the following questions according to your area of interest:**

1. Dance: Construct your own personal interpretation of one of the dance pieces (short videos). Does it depict a story? An issue? Certain themes? What are these?

2. Dance: Analyze the dance using dance vocabulary.

3. Drama: Express your personal response and preferences and make connections to the themes presented in the dance.

4. Visual Arts D1.1 Create a two-dimensional, three-dimensional and multimedia art work that explores feelings ideas and issues conveyed in ***Revel in the Light*** or in the short dance clip ***First Encounter*** or in the clip of dancers, Michael Barrett and John Delazzari: [[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wICA8AabGEI](https://nouwen.hopto.org/owa/redir.aspx?C=c9b0e4e2851142cba5bb8a4bdd1230c1&URL=https%3a%2f%2fwww.youtube.com%2fwatch%3fv%3dwICA8AabGEI) ]

*The story of each one of us is the story of accepting that we are fragile.* Jean Vanier