Who wrote *The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963*?
Christopher Paul Curtis

Name the members of the Watson family.
Dad (Daniel), Momma (Wilona), Byron, Kenny and Joetta (back cover)

Kenny begins the story of *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by describing the weather. What was it like?
“Super-duper” cold (p. 1)

What are Kenny’s sibling’s names?
Joetta (Joey) and Byron (p. 2)

What city do the Watsons live in?
Flint, Michigan (p. 2)

One of Kenny’s family members was not born in Michigan. Who was it, and what state are they from?
Kenny’s mom, Alabama (p. 2)

What did Kenny’s mother call Michigan?
A giant icebox (p. 2)

Name the children of the Watson family, from oldest to youngest.
Byron, Kenny, Joetta (p. 2)

How old is Byron?
13 (p. 2)

Finish this sentence: “Byron had just turned thirteen so he was officially a . . . .”
Teenage juvenile delinquent (p. 2)

What are Mr. and Mrs. Watson’s first names?
Daniel, Wilona (p. 3)

What nickname does Kenny’s dad call his mother’s old boyfriend?
Hambone” Henderson (p. 4)

Why did Kenny’s father call Moses Henderson “Hambone”?
He had a head shaped like a hambone (lots of knots and bumps) (p. 4)

Why does Kenny’s Momma put her hand over her mouth when she laughs?
Because she has a gap between her front teeth (p. 4)

What do the Watsons call their car?
The Brown Bomber (p. 6)

What was the “Brown Bomber”?
A 1948 Plymouth car that was big and dull brown. (p.6)

What nickname do the Watsons call their car and what is the make and model?
The Brown Bomber; a 1948 Plymouth (p. 5)

Why are Byron and Kenny told to go scrape snow off the Brown Bomber in Chapter 1? So the famiy can go to Aunt Cydney’s to warm up. (p.6)

What made the windshield of the Brown Bomber different than newer cars from 1963? It had a big bar down the middle (p. 7)

What is Byron’s best friend’s name? Buphead (p. 8)

Who said: “Say, kid, you wanna learn somethin’ that might save your stupid life one day?”? Byron (p. 8)

According to Byron and Buphead, what is the most important thing to do to survive a blizzard? Put your hands in front of your face (p. 8)

Why did Byron Watson say he must be adopted? Because his parent’s couldn’t have given birth to someone as good looking as himself (pg.8)

What were the three tests of Byron & Buphead’s blizzard survival test? Wind, balance, and blowin’ snow (p. 10-11)

What happened to Byron when he and Kenny were scraping ice off the Brown Bomber? He got his lips frozen to the side mirror (p.13)

What is Kenny’s full name? Kenneth Bernard Watson (p. 13)

What was Mr. Watson’s reaction to seeing Byron stuck to the car’s mirror? He laughed (p. 14)

How old is Mr. Watson? 35 (p. 15)

How did Byron get his lips stuck to the car? He was kissing his reflection and got his lips stuck to the mirror because it was so cold outside. (p. 15)

Who had to pour water on Byron’s lips to try and get him unfrozen from the mirror? Kenny (p. 16)

Why was Kenny the one that had to pour hot water on Byron’s lips to get him unfrozen from the mirror? He mother was shaking too much and his father was laughing too much (p. 16)

What happened when Kenny poured hot water on Byron’s lips to try and get him unfrozen from the car’s mirror? The water froze solid to the mirror, making things worse (p.16)
What do the neighbors call the Watson family?
The Weird Watsons (p. 17)

How did Momma get Byron’s lips unstuck from the car’s mirror?
She ripped them off by giving Byron a “good hard snatch.” (p. 18)

In the beginning of The Watson’s Go to Birmingham, why did Kenneth eventually end up having to scrape all of the windows of the family car by himself?
Because his brother Byron hurt himself by getting his lips stuck to the frozen mirror of the family car (pg. 18)

Kenny says he’s going to write a comic book about a mean criminal turned superhero. What is he going to call the superhero?
The Lipless Wonder (p. 19)

How did Kenny get back at his brother Byron for punching him in the forehead and getting out of doing his part of the window scraping?
He joked about writing a comic book called the Lipless Wonder (pg. 19)

Where did Kenny go to school?
Clark Elementary (p. 20)

Who is “god” of the school according to Kenny?
His brother, Byron. (p. 20)

Who was “king” of Kindergarten through 4th grade of Clark Elementary, and why was he king?
Larry Dunn, he was older and stronger than everyone else (he flunked a few grades) (p. 20)

What grades are Kenny and Byron in?
4th and 6th (p. 20)

How much did Larry Dunn trick Kenny out of when Kenny showed him some money he found?
50 cents (p. 21)

Why does Kenny think he doesn’t get teased at school as much as he should?
His brother is a god at the school (p. 21)

What two things does Kenny say are wrong with him that could get him teased at school?
He loved to read (and teachers thought he was smart/made him a teachers’ pet) (p. 22), he had a lazy eye (p. 25)

Why do people think Kenny is smart?
Because he loves to read. (p. 22)

Teachers often took Kenny into other classrooms at school. What did he do there?
Read aloud (p. 22)
What is the name of Kenny’s second grade teacher and what does she ask Kenny to read from for other classrooms?
Mrs. Henry; the Bible or the newspaper. (p. 22)

What author did Kenny read aloud in Mr. Alums’ class?
Langston Hughes (p. 22)

What does Kenny’s teacher, Miss Henry, do when Kenny reads aloud too fast?
Turns his book upside down (p. 24)

Give two of the nicknames Kenny sometimes gets called at school.
Egghead, Professor, Poindexter (p. 25), Cockeye Kenny (p. 26)

What advice did Byron give to Kenny to help him talk to people without his eye distracting them?
Look at people sideways (p. 26)

What book is Kenny thinking about getting to help him if Byron graduates to junior high?
Learning Karate in Three Weeks (p. 27)

Who said: “Give my regards to Clark, Poindexter.”? What/who does Clark and Poindexter refer to?
Byron, Clark = elementary school, Poindexter = Kenny (p. 27)

Where did Kenny sit on the bus when Byron skipped school?
Behind the driver (p. 28)

Who did Kenny think was his “saver” from God and why?
The new kid, Rufus; he was different and new and would get teased more than Kenny (p. 29)

On the day that Kenny Watson decided God had finally gotten sick of him getting teased and picked on all of the time, he describes two parts to his miracle. What are they?
Part one: the bus driver stopped to let on two boys who were late catching the bus instead of driving off as he normally would. (pg. 28)
Part two: Kenneth believed God had sent his personal savior (Rufus Fry) in the form of a boy who was going to be easier to make fun of than himself (pg. 29-30)

Who is Rufus Fry?
The new kid at school (p. 32)

What were the newcomers’ names?
Rufus and Cody Fry (p.32 & 35)

What foods does Kenny share with Rufus from his lunch?
Peanut butter sandwich and an apple (p. 34)

Who does this quote refer to: “Man, this kid could really talk!”?
Rufus (p. 34)
What animal does Rufus say he has shot and eaten back in Arkansas?
Squirrel (p. 35)

What animal did Rufus refer to as “fat and stupid”?
Squirrel (p. 35)

Why does Rufus think the squirrel in the schoolyard was dumb?
Because it was out in the open ready for anyone to shoot it and eat it. (p. 35)

Where does Rufus come from?
Arkansas (p. 35)

What is Rufus’s brother’s name?
Cody (p. 36)

What time does Rufus come over to Kenny’s to play?
5:30 pm (p. 37)

What toys did Kenny and Rufus play with together?
Plastic dinosaurs (p. 37)

What friend of Kenny’s used to steal his dinosaurs?
LJ Jones (p. 37)

Why did Kenny and LJ bury some of the toy dinosaurs?
In their game they were “radioactive” and infecting the other dinosaurs (p. 41)

Whose fort did Kenny and LJ sneak over to visit?
Larry Dunn & Banky’s (p. 40)

How did LJ Jones trick Kenny into forgetting about his buried dinosaur figures?
LJ told Kenny that he found Larry Dunn’s fort and would take him to see it (pg. 40)

Why does Kenny like playing dinosaurs with Rufus?
He doesn’t steal any of the dinosaurs and he doesn’t mind being the Nazi dinosaurs (p. 42)

What two things did classmates tease Rufus about?
The way he talked, his raggedy/lack of clothes (p. 42)

Why does Rufus stop hanging out with Kenny?
Kenny laughs at a joke made at Rufus & Codys’ expense (p. 43)

True or False   Kenny was glad when Rufus stopped coming over to play dinosaurs?
False (p. 45)

Who helped Kenny and Rufus become friends again?
Kenny’s mom (p. 46)
Kenny (p. 46)

How long had Kenny’s mother been living in Flint when the story takes place?
15 years (p. 47)

Who thought that cold weather could “kill you in a flash”?
Kenny’s mother (p. 47)

Why did kids at school sometimes compare the Watsons to mummies?
Their mother made them wear so many layers when it was cold outside (p. 47)

What were the two teams called for playing dinosaur game?
American dinosaurs and Nazi dinosaurs (p. 37)

Who helped to get Kenny and Rufus’s friendship back on track after their falling out?
Momma (p. 46)

What part about helping Joey take off her winter clothes did Kenny not mind?
When the final layers came off, there was a nice smell/smelling Joey’s head (p. 48)

What did Mrs. Watson put in Joey’s jacket pocket and why?
A little towel, to wipe off her face and hair because she got so wet under all the layers of clothing (p. 48)

Who said: “When I wear all this junk I’m the laughing sock of the morning kindergarten!”?
Joey (p. 49)

What type of vehicle did Byron say was used to pick the “froze folks” off the street?
Garbage trucks (p. 54)

Why does Byron tell Kenny and Joey they were more likely to freeze than other people?
Their mother is from the South so half of their blood is real thin (p. 54)

According to Kenny, what was the only good thing about their mother being afraid of the cold?
They got to wear real leather gloves (p. 55)

At the end of Winter the Watson parents would go to Montgomery Wards to buy something on sale. What was it?
Gloves on sale (p. 55)

What kind of winter gloves does Momma buy for all the kids and how many pairs?
The gloves are leather with rabbit fur inside. She would buy two pairs for each kid in case they lost a pair. (p. 55)

What does wearing your gloves “kindergarten-style” mean?
The gloves are pinned to a string that is run through your coat sleeves, so you don’t lose them (p. 55)

Who did Kenny share his gloves with?
Rufus (p. 56)

What did Larry Dunn call the snow facials he gave to kids and why?
Maytag Washes, because he went through all the cycles of a washing machine (p. 57)

What was the bully’s name who gave “Maytag Washes” to the other kids?
Larry Dunn (p. 57)

Who stole Kenny’s leather gloves and how did he try to hide it?
Larry Dunn, he changed the color by painting them black with shoe polish (p. 58)

How was Kenny finally able to prove that Larry Dunn had been the one who stole his leather gloves?
After Larry Dunn had given Kenny what he called a Maytag Washer, Rufus noticed that the snow washed way the black shoe polish from the leather gloves. (pg. 58)

Who got Kenny’s gloves back for him?
Byron (p. 59)

What was the title of the “movie” that Byron made Larry Dunn star in by throwing him into the fence?
The Great Carp Escape (p. 62)

How did Kenny feel when Byron started bullying Larry Dunn?
He felt bad for Larry and wished he hadn’t said anything to Bryon (p. 62)

What did Byron and Kenny call their mother’s story about her house catching on fire?
Her Smokey the Bear story (p. 64)

Where in the house did Byron drop the Nazi parachutes that he’d made?
In the bathroom/over the toilet (p. 65)

What role play game was Byron playing when Momma found him in the bathroom playing with matches?
Nazi parachutes attack American and get shot down over the Flint River by Captain Bryon Watson and his flamethrower of death. (p. 65)

How could you tell if Mrs. Watson was really mad?
She started talking in a real Southern-style accent (p. 68)

What punishment was Momma going to give Byron for playing with matches in the house?
She was planning to burn his fingers. (p. 72)

Who rescued Byron from getting burned by Mrs. Watson, his punishment for lighting matches?
Joey (p. 74)

What grocery items did Mrs. Watson send Byron and Kenny to get at Mitchell’s?
Milk (half gallon), a loaf of bread, tomato paste (small can) (p. 75)

Why doesn’t Byron need money to buy groceries at the store?
His parents made arrangements to be able to sign for the food until payday (p. 75)

Why did Byron think poor people were called “peons”?  
Because “rich folks would just as soon pee on them than anything else” (p. 79)

What came flying at Kenny in the alley behind Mitchell's?  
Cookies (Swedish Cremes) (p. 80)

What food items that Momma has served in the past does Byron suspect are “welfare food”?  
Milk and cheese (p. 80)

What kind of cookies did Byron share with Kenny?  
Swedish Cremes (p. 81)

How did Byron get the cookies that he shared with Kenny?  
He signed for them at Mitchell’s (their parents didn’t know about it) (p. 82)

How did Byron kill a bird?  
By throwing a Swedish Crème Cookie at it. (p. 83)

What animal did Byron bury in the alley behind Mitchell’s?  
A bird (mourning dove) (p. 84)

How does Byron honor the mourning dove he killed?  
He made a make-shift grave by burying the bird and placing two popsicle sticks on top in the form of a cross. (p. 85)

How did Byron try and hide his new hairdo from his mother?  
He wore a hat and a handkerchief (p. 87)

What is Kenny referring to with these words: “a conk, a process, a do, a butter, a ton of trouble”?  
Byron’s new hairdo (p. 87)

What does Byron do to his hair?  
He has it straightened “Mexican style.” It was reddish brown, straight, stiff and slick-looking. He got a butter, do, process, or conk. (p. 87)

Why did Kenny call Byron “Death row prisoner number five forty-one”?  
Because he was in trouble for changing his hair and Mr. Watson was on his way home and would likely punish him (p. 90)

Kenny kept calling Byron a death row prisoner when he was in trouble for changing his hair. What number did he give him?  
541 (p. 90)

Who straightened Byron’s hair?  
Buphead (p. 91)
Who said this to Byron: “Why won’t you behave? Why won’t you think about what’s going to happen to you when you do something wrong?”
Joey (p. 92)

What song did Mr. Watson whistle while he cut Byron’s hair?
Straighten Up and Fly Right (p. 96)

What did Mr. Watson do to Byron once he saw his new hairdo?
Shaved his head (p. 98)

What was so funny that the Watsons found out about Byron once his head was shaved?
His ears stuck out (p. 98)

Who spoke loudly on the phone because they thought they had to for long-distance phone calls?
Grandma Sands (p. 99)

What incident prompted the phone call to Grandma Sands?
Byron getting his hair straightened. (p. 99)

What did Byron do that was the final breaking point for his parents to decide to call Grandma Sands in Alabama?
He changed his hair to a reddish-brown Mexican style (pg. 98-99)

Where did Grandma Sands live?
In Alabama (p. 99)

What strange things did Mr. and Mrs. Watson start doing after they talked to Grandma Sands?
Mrs. Watson started keeping track of things in a notebook and Mr. Watson started fixing up the car (p. 100)

Who helped Mr. Watson fix up the Brown Bomber?
Kenny, Joey, and Rufus (p. 100)

What object was on the middle of the hood of the Brown Bomber and why was it unusual?
A chrome rocket, it only had one wing (p. 101)

What did Mr. Watson describe as “the height of technology, the ultimate in American knowledge, and the pinnacle of Western civilization”?
A pine tree car air freshener (p. 103)

What day of the week do Kenny and Joey get up early to watch cartoons?
Saturday (p. 103)

What household item does Mr. Watson hide from everyone?
His toothbrush (p. 104)

Why does Mr. Watson hide his toothbrush?
He knows that other people are likely to want to use it to clean other things (p. 104)

What has Byron used Kenny’s toothbrush for?
To shine up some quarters, clean Blackie’s teeth (p. 105)

Where did Mr. Watson used to work when he was young?
A barbershop (p. 105)

Why does Mr. Watson say it is important to make sure your neck is clean before going to the barbershop?
Otherwise the barber will talk about you after you leave (p. 105)

Name three of the cartoons that the Watsons watch on Saturday morning.
Felix the Cat, Soupy Sales, Beany and Cecil, The Rae Deane Show, Betty Boop, Clutch Cargo (p. 106)

What new addition to the Brown Bomber did Mr. Watson hide under a towel?
A drive-around record player (the Ultra-Glide) (p. 109)

What was the “Ture-Tone AB-700 model, the Ultra Glide”?
A drive around record player for the Brown Bomber (p.109-110)

What was Mrs. Watson’s reaction to seeing the Ultra-Glide?
She said, “Oh my God!”, gave Mr. Watson a dirty look and went back inside the house (p. 109)

What is the Ultra-Glide?
A record player for the car (p. 110)

What did the new technology of the Ultra-Glide do that made it better than previous car music players?
It had a vibration dampening system so going over bumps wouldn’t disrupt the music (p. 113)

What was the first song the Watsons played on their Ultra-Glide?
Under the Boardwalk (p. 117)

What is Kenny’s favorite song to listen to on the Ultra-Glide?
Yakety-Yak (p. 117)

What news did Mrs. Watson give the kids after they finished listening to the Ultra-Glide for the first time?
That they were going to Alabama and Byron would stay there for the summer (or longer) (p. 118)

What phrase did Byron give to all of his antics?
His “Latest Fantastic Adventures” (p. 118)

Name four of the wrongdoings Mrs. Watson cited as a reason for Byron having to stay in Alabama with Grandma Sands.
Cutting school, lightning fires, stealing change from Mrs. Watson’s purse, fighting, trouble at Mitchell’s (signing for food without the Watsons’ permission), a “problem” with Mary Ann Hill, setting mousetraps
for birds, falling out of a tree (trying to see if a cat always landed on its feet), getting a conk, joining a gang (p. 118)

Why was Grandma Sands going to look after Byron for a while?  
All of his misbehavior was driving his parents crazy (p. 119)

What reasons does Mrs. Watson give Byron for him liking Birmingham and it being good for him?  
Different from Flint, nice boys to be friends with, fishing and hunting, safe, quiet, no Buphead (p. 119)

Kenny says his parents never sent Byron to Alabama in the past for three reasons. What are they?  
It is so far away – they wouldn’t send Byron alone and Mrs. Watson would never ride with him, they always said they’d do stuff to him but they never did, Grandma Sands was supposedly very strict (p. 119)

Where did Kenny and his father have a heart to heart conversation about Bryon going to Alabama and the scary world of parenting?  
The Brown Bomber (p. 124)

Why does Mr. Watson tell Kenny they need the Ultra-Glide for their trip to Alabama?  
The radio stations down South only play hillbilly music and he doesn’t want to get hooked on it (p. 126)

Why does Kenny hate the way Joey opens presents?  
She does it really slowly and carefully (p. 127)

What did the Watsons’ neighbor, Mrs. Davidson give to Joey as a present?  
An angel (p. 127)

Why did Mrs. Davidson say the angel she gave to Joey remind her of Joey?  
Its smile (dimple) looked like Joey’s (p. 127)

What did Joetta feel was wrong with the going away present that Mrs. Davidson gave her?  
Mrs. Davidson gave Joetta and angle that she said looked like Joetta but the angel’s skin color was white.  (pg. 128)

Who was the only one who didn’t get anything ready to go to Alabama?  
Byron (p. 129)

What did Mr. & Mrs. Watson make Bryon do on his last night in Flint and why?  
Sleep in their bedroom, Joey snitched and said he was going to try and escape (p. 130)

Where did Byron sleep the night before they left for Birmingham?  
In his parents’ bedroom. (p.130)

What two cities do the Watsons plan to stop in on their way to Alabama to stay overnight?  
Cincinnati, Knoxville (p. 131)

What road runs all the way from Flint to Florida?  
Highway I-75 (p. 131)
Other than as the name of a chapter, where can the title of the book be found in the story?
Mrs. Watson wrote it on the front of her trip notebook (p. 133)

What did Byron tell Buphead he was going to do on the trip to Alabama to mess it up for everyone?
Not say a word (p. 135)

Even though Byron had planned on not talking the entire drive down to Birmingham, what city were the Watson’s driving through when he finally spoke to his family?
Detroit (pg. 135)

Why did Kenny say seniority was so important in the Watsons’ house?
Mr. Watson was in the United Auto Workers at work (p. 136)

Two references are made to public bathrooms in different states What are they?
1. The “coloreds only” bathroom in downtown Birmingham. (p.5)
2. The outhouse toilet in the Ohio rest stop. (p.138)

Where did the Watson’s first stop on their drive down to Birmingham, Alabama?
A rest stop just outside of Toledo, Ohio (pg. 138)

Where did Kenny and Byron go to the bathroom when they stopped in Cincinnati?
In the woods (p. 139)

Why didn’t Byron and Kenny use the bathroom at the rest stop in Cincinnati?
They thought it was gross/weird (p. 139)

Why does Grandma Sands like having an outhouse?
She thinks it makes the house a nicer place if the facilities are outside (p. 140)

Why did Byron and Kenny argue about who had to hold Joey’s head as she slept in the car?
She drools (p. 141)

What did Joey carry around in her shoe?
A worn-out picture of a boy and a dog that said Buster Brown (p. 142)

What did Mr. Watson secretly plan to do on the trip to Alabama that Mrs. Watson didn’t know about?
Drive straight through without stopping (p. 143)

What mountains were the Watsons near when they stopped in Tennessee?
Appalachia Mountains (p. 144)

Where were the Watsons when Kenny observed: “It looked like someone had crumpled up a pitch-black blanket and dropped the Weird Watsons down into the middle of it.”?
Appalachia Mountains (Tennessee rest stop) (p. 145)

What is this a description of? “A hillbilly. Only worse. Some of ‘em don’t even speak English”.

Kenny said they had been in the car so long on their trip to Alabama that something changed his father’s appearance (besides looking tired). What was it? He had started growing a beard (p. 150).

Why did Mr. Watson finally turn on the radio on their trip to Alabama? The Ultra-Glide was broken/stuck (p. 151).

Kenny’s dad jokes that he’s going to change all of the Watsons’ names to “country” names. Name three of the five.
Clem, Homer, Billy Bob, Daisy Mae, Wilona (p. 151).

Kenny described the weather in Birmingham as like . . . what? An oven (p. 152).

How many hours does it take the Watsons to get to Birmingham? 18 hours. (p. 153).

What magazine did Mr. Watson get every month? Scientific Popular (p. 154).

What trick did Mr. Watson say he used to put the family to sleep while on their trip to Alabama? He made a buzzing sound like a vacuum cleaner (p. 154).

How did Dad change Momma’s plans for travelling to Birmingham? By driving straight through instead of stopping. (p.154).

What made Kenny surprised when they pulled into Birmingham? It looked a lot like Flint (p. 155).

Why was Grandma Sands surprised to see the Watsons? They arrived a day early since they drove straight through (p. 156).

How old was Byron the last time he saw Grandma Sands? Four years old. (p. 156).

What was Kenny Watson expecting his Grandma Sands to look like when he met her in person for the first time? A troll (pg. 156).

What is Kenny’s middle name? Bernard (p. 157).

Which of the Watson children was first to hug Grandma Sands? Kenny (pg. 157).
Who does Grandma Sands laugh sound like?
The Wicked Witch of the West from *The Wizard of Oz* (p. 160)

What did Kenny say that made Grandma Sands suggest that maybe he needed to spend the summer with her as well?
Kenny said that his brother Byron wasn’t as dumb as he looked (pg. 160)

What reason did Bryon give Kenny for why his behavior changed so quickly after arriving in Birmingham?
Byron didn’t want to kill his Grandmother with his bad behavior; he didn’t want her death on his hands (pg. 161)

What is Mr. Robert’s dog’s name?
Toddy (p. 163)

What did Mr. Robert’s dog used to be skilled at?
Hunting raccoons (p. 163)

Which character talked about giving a dog CPR?
Mr. Robert (p. 164)

How long has Wilona’s father been gone and who is now Grandma Sands’ dearest friend?
Almost 20 years; Mr. Roberts (p. 167)

Who is Grandma Sands’ dearest friend?
Mr. Robert (p.167)

What was the most difficult part of being in Birmingham for Kenny?
The heat. (p.168)

What area did Grandma Sands warn the kids to stay away from?
Collier’s Landing (p. 169)

Who does Byron say is “Winnie’s evil twin brother”?
Wool Pooh (p. 170)

Of the three Watson kids, who decided to go to Collier’s Landing against Grandma Sands’ wishes?
Kenny (p. 171)

Kenny says there’s one good thing about getting in trouble. What is it?
It seems like you do it in steps (p. 173)

What wildlife did Kenny encounter in the water at Collier’s Landing?
Little fish and a turtle (p. 174)

Where did Kenny get the idea if his head goes underwater three times he’ll never come back up?
From cartoons (p. 175)
Who saved Kenny from drowning at Collier’s Landing?
Bryon (p. 179)

What color was Joey dressed in to go to Sunday school?
White (p. 180)

What does Kenny tell the neighbors when they ask why he isn’t going to Sunday school?
He forgot to get up in time (p. 181)

Where was Kenny when the loud bang shook Birmingham?
In Grandma’s back yard under the magnolia tree (p. 182)

What did Mr. Watson suggest the loud bang may have been before they knew what it was?
A sonic boom (p. 182)

What was the loud bang that shook Birmingham?
A bomb inside a church (p. 183)

How did Joey end up leaving the church before the bomb went off?
She was hot so she went outside, then thought she saw Kenny so she chased him down the street (p. 189)

What awful thing happened at Grandma Sands’ church?
A bomb went off. (p. 191)

How many people were killed and injured when a bomb went off at Grandma Sands’ church?
Four little girls were killed, two more were blinded, and a “bunch of other people” were sent to the hospital. (p. 191)

Why weren’t the Watsons worried at all about Joey once they got back to Flint?
They hadn’t told her what happened with the bomb (p. 192)

How much longer did the Watsons stay in Birmingham after the bomb went off?
They left that night (p. 192)

Why are Mr. & Mrs. Watson so worried about Kenny when they get back to Flint?
He keeps disappearing, they heard he may have been at the church after the bombing and wonder what he saw (p. 192)

Where has Kenny been disappearing to once the family gets back to Flint?
A space behind the couch (p. 193)

What is Kenny’s hiding spot called and why?
The World-Famous Watson Pet Hospital, pets crawled back there to get better when something happened to them (p. 193)

How did dogs emerge from the Watson Pet Hospital and how did cats come out?
Dogs were friendlier, cats were meaner (p. 194)

Who does Kenny give his pillowcase full of dinosaurs to? Rufus and Cody. (p. 195)

What did Byron do to be a friend to Kenny while he hid out behind the couch? Got him stuff to eat, watched TV with him, invited him to play ball with him (p. 196), slept on the couch, kept him company (p. 197), coaxed him out (p. 198)

Why do the Watsons think the bombers may have bombed the church? They didn’t want the black kids to go to school with the white kids (p. 200)

More than being sad or scared, Kenny said after the bombing he was mostly what? Ashamed (p. 200)

Why was Kenny hiding behind the couch? He felt ashamed for not fighting the Wool Pooh in the church and believed the magic, genies, or angels behind the couch might help him feel better. (pg. 201)

Who Talked Kenny into coming out from behind the couch? Byron (p. 202)