**Summary:**

Katherine “Kit” Tyler lost both parents as a child and has recently lost her beloved grandfather who then raised her. She is left with no other choice but to seek help from her mother’s only sister (her Aunt Rachel). Kit meets a nice boy, with a great family, who own the boat on which she is traveling to America from Barbados. The Eatons show Kit unconditional hospitality while some of the other passengers from Wethersfield, Connecticut treat her as a pariah. Once in Wethersfield Kit appreciates the hospitality of her aunt and cousins, while meeting opposition from her Uncle Matthew, who is a devout Puritan. While on *The Dolphin* Kit also meets a nice young scholar name John Holbrook who is also traveling to Wethersfield to learn under the Reverend Bulkeley. Matthew and Reverend Bulkeley have a heated disagreement over colonial loyalties to the English throne. During Kit’s stay in Wethersfield she gets a job teaching children, contributes to the household chores, but feels dissatisfied until she meets a kind older woman who welcomes her, relieving her homesickness. Sadly, Hannah Tupper (Kit’s new companion) has been persecuted throughout New England because of her religious beliefs, which differ from those of the Puritans who populate the area. As fate has it, the nice young man from the ship, Nat Eaton, has a friendly relationship with Hannah Tupper as well, helping her and bring her gifts from his travels. Kit begins to see something in Nat that she has failed to see in John Holbrook and in William Ashby, who has been courting her for months.

**Questions:**

Why is Kit willing to risk so much just to spend time with Hannah? What do the children derive from visiting Hanna?

Why is loyalty to the king of England so important to some of the characters (Americans)?

What predictions can you make about Hannah, Kit, Nat, Rachel, Mercy as the plot is driven further into conflict?

Is it ever okay to lie?

**Connections:**

Text to world: Persecution of Jews during the Holocaust

**Research:**

The political structures of colonial New England. The religious and economic impact of slavery in colonial America. The role of religion on politics historically and to present.

**Passages:**

p.23 P.1

p.61 P.1

p.70 P.2

p.70 P.4 & 6

p.91. P.5

p.92 P.6

p.94 P.3 (allusion)

p.99

p. 102

p.112 P.1 -connection to Nikki Giovanni’s poem

p.117 P.7

p.118 S.1