

Close Reading Graphic Organizer: “Freak Show”

1. What questions do you have about this poem before you read it on your own?

2. After a close reading of the first stanza, what are some words that stand out for you?

3. Based on details in the first stanza, how do you think the narrator feels about James Kingsbury? What words in the first stanza reveal her attitude?

4. After reading the second stanza, what words or phrases stand out for you?

5. Why would the author name this poem “Freak Show”? What does the author want you to understand?

6. Now that you’ve done a close reading of this poem, how do you think the author plays with language to add to the meaning of the poem?