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| Vocabulary Word | Sentence from the text | Part of Speech | Definition | Sentence of My Own |
| sallow | “She had sallow skin that look as if it had never felt the sun, and there was usually a blotchy red rash in the middle of her forehead.”  |  |  |  |
| tacitly | “She was also the object of such contempt and scorn, such cruel ridicule, that it shames me to this day to think I was part of it, even tacitly.”  |  |  |  |
| lest | “And it’s important when you’re a teenager to join the laughter, lest the laughter turn on you.” |  |  |  |
| greasers | “I remember one day when the Bird was surrounded by three of four suburban-variety greasers who had stopped her in the corridor between classes.” |  |  |  |
| defiant | “And I wonder if that one act of defiant kindness may have saved another girl’s life.” |  |  |  |
| unrelenting | “I received several letters about that piece, which concerned a girl I knew in high school who was the victim of cruel and unrelenting ridicule because she was unattractive, uncool and unable to defend herself.”  |  |  |  |
| contend | “Back in high school I had to contend with many of the malicious deeds and taunts from my ‘fellow students,’ similar but different.”  |  |  |  |
| malicious | “Back in high school I had to contend with many of the malicious deeds and taunts from my ‘fellow students,’ similar but different.” |  |  |  |
| taunts | “Back in high school I had to contend with many of the malicious deeds and taunts from my ‘fellow students,’ similar but different.” |  |  |  |
| encounter | “Gym class, especially, was my psychological encounter with hell-twice weekly.” |  |  |  |
| eluded | “How I was to become a man through all this eluded me, primarily because I was being treated as less than human by these jerks.” |  |  |  |
| mobile | “On occasion, I was tripped or punched, and on special occasions, I would even be tossed into the mobile trash cans and rolled into classrooms that weren’t even mine.” |  |  |  |
| instigators | “I may have been bigger than some of these instigators, but I could never seem to get the courage to bring a fist up to their ugly faces.”  |  |  |  |