

*Something Wicked This Way  
Comes* theme assignment



# Example #1

In the novel *Blindsided* by Priscilla Cummings, one of the themes is that you can either be knocked down by your struggles or rise above them to make yourself stronger. A good example of this is when Natalie doesn't want to go to a blind school because she hasn't yet gone blind. On p. 129, her teacher, Miss Audra tells her, "You can't live in fear the rest of your life." Miss Audra wants Natalie to learn skills that will help her when her blindness happens. Natalie denying what is happening won't make it go away. Another good example of this theme is when Natalie's mom reminds her of a time when she fell down in the strong waves of the ocean but stood up and walked out. On page 204, her mom stated, "What happened? You got your footing and you walked out." Natalie's mom is teaching her that falling down in the ocean doesn't mean you will drown. Natalie's teacher and her mom want her to realize that going blind doesn't mean that her life is over. She can learn new skills and live a fulfilling life.

## Example #2

One theme in the book *Lost in the River of Grass* by Ginny Rorby is to be kind to everyone and everything regardless of your circumstances. Sarah is lost in the Everglades with a boy named Andy, and they are trying to find their way out. Even though they are in a scary and difficult situation, Sarah mothers and protects an orphaned baby duck. On p. 77, Sarah tells Andy, “What kind of a person would I be if I don’t at least try to keep the duckling safe?” This quote shows us how the character Sarah cares about something besides herself even though she is lost. Another quote that shows kindness is on p. 101, “ ‘You’ve got no choice, Sarah.’ His voice is soft. ‘You’re doing great, you know? I’m proud of you.’ ” This shows how kind Andy is towards Sarah even though they are doing a lot of walking and both of them are tired and scared. Being kind helped them work better together and to survive the Everglades until they were rescued. Being kind to others when we are struggling shows that we are compassionate and can put the needs of others above our own.