



SEPTEMBER ROSES

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September Roses is the story of two women from South Africa who traveled all the way to New York for a flower show to show off their beautiful roses. Once they get there, they find that the flower show has been cancelled, as have all flights back to their home country, because of September 11. When someone gives them a place to stay, they decide to share their beautiful flowers with the city, at the memorial.

Questions:

1. Read the author's note at the beginning. How would you feel if you looked out your window and saw smoke? How would you feel when you learned where it was coming from? The author wrote this book based on a true story. She saw something and heard a story that moved her and made her feel good. She wanted to pass that on. Is that an example of empathy?
2. How would it feel to grow that many beautiful roses? What would it smell like? Would it take a lot of work? Would it be worth all the hard work?
3. They were creating rose designs for a competition far away from home. Have you ever been part of a competition? How did you feel? Have you ever gone far away from home? How did you feel when traveling that far?
4. Do you have any dreams for your life? What do you dream about? How do you think the sisters feel, going forward toward their dreams?
5. When they got stuck at the airport for days, how do you think that felt? They had nowhere to go and planes weren't flying anymore, so they were trapped. How would you feel if you were trapped like that? How do you think they felt when someone came and offered them a place to stay?
6. They knew that someone had been kind to them, and they wanted to do something to pass that kindness on. If everyone did something kind for someone else every time someone did something kind for them, do you think kindness could take over the world?
7. Have you seen pictures of the flowers and candles that were placed in locations all around the world after September 11? How did those flower and candle collections make you feel?
8. Since the flower show was cancelled, the sisters found something good to do with their roses. How do you think the roses made people feel? How did they make the author feel?

