

ATPE BOOK of the month CLUB

Countdown by *Deborah Wiles*

Discussion questions written by student Guest Reader Jacob Estrada from Austin ISD

1. What do you think about how Franny and the children go on with everyday life after the “drill?” How would you feel if a common safety practice for nuclear attacks was “duck and cover?”
2. What do you think of Peter Seeger and his story?
3. How secure do you think people really were during this time period?
4. What do you think of life on the army base?
5. How would you react if you learned that nuclear warheads were as close as Cuba and could strike at any time?
6. Why do you think Ms. Rodriguez acted the way she did towards the Cuban missile crisis?
7. What do you think about the group that Sue Ellen is in?
8. What do you think about the author’s technique of including facts and pictures about the 1960s in the book?
9. Why do you think Franny goes looking for Margie after all they went through?
10. Did you like how the author ended the book? Would you have written it differently? If so, how would you have ended the story?

