

The Body of Christopher Creed

Journals

Entry One: Starting Over (prior to chapter 1)

When you graduate from high school, what do you plan to do with your life? How will you use this time to start your life over? Will you reinvent yourself? Will you develop your talents, find yourself, travel, educate your self, get into the “real world,” what? What is your approach to this new point in your life? How will you handle this transition?

Entry Two: Truth Less Important (chapter 2)

When Torey comments on his observations of Christ wearing a loincloth on page 19-20, what point is he trying to make? What is Reverend Harmon’s explanation? Who do you agree with? Why?

Entry Three: School Slut? (chapter 4)

Who is Ali McDermott? Describe her physically and mentally by referring to pages 42-47. What is her reputation around school? What do you think she is like? Think about other students at TFS who may not have a “good” or “clean” reputation. Do you think these reputations are accurate? Why or why not? (Please do NOT use real names of students.)

Entry Four: Who was (is) Chris Creed? (chapters 3 and 4)

What do we know about Christopher Creed? Refer to chapters three and four to develop an accurate picture of him as Torey tells us. What is he physically and mentally like? What is his home life like? What are his parents like?

Entry Five: Getting on One’s Nerves (chapter 5)

Why does Torey comment, “My own friends were getting on my nerves some,” (64)? What does Torey and his friends talk about that would make him become aggravated with people he is suppose to like and what to be around? Do your friends ever make you feel this way? Why or why not?

Entry Six: A Room of One’s Own (chapter 8)

Why does Ali say to Torey, “Great place to get a sense of individuality. You’ve really got a shot at having your own identity in that place, huh,” (93)? What are they looking at? Why? Think about your room. How does your room reflect who you are? What have you done to decorate it, add things to it, get rid of things, or other changes to make this room your own? Does Chris Creed have this same freedom? Why or why not?

Entry Seven: Mother Figures (chapter 8)

What type of mothers are Mrs. Creed and Mrs. McDermott? Describe each one by referring to the details from the first eight chapters of the text. Are these women “good” mothers? Why or why not? What are the qualities/characteristics of a “good” mother? Explain these “good” qualities in your comparison to these two women.

Entry Eight: Bo’s Life (chapters 9 and 10)

Who is Bo Richardson? What is his life situation like? Who are his siblings, parents, home situation, school career, love interest, and criminal record? What is Torey’s understanding of him? Do you agree with Torey’s view of Bo? Why or why not?

Entry Nine: Haines' Case (chapter 11)

What is the story Mrs. Adams (Torey's mom) tells about Digger Haines and his father Bob? Give a summary of this story from her childhood. How does this story relate to the Creed Case involving Mrs. Creed and Christopher? What is the point of both of these stories? Are the parents or sons to blame for the situation? Why or why not?

Entry Ten: Other People's Shoes (chapter 12 – pgs 157-158)

How is Torey able to understand people by “being in their shoes”? How does he know Ali and her brother Greg better by doing this? How does he understand Bo better? Do you ever do this to understand people better? Why or why not? Is this a good idea for people to reach an understanding and accept others for who they really are as opposed to “understanding” people based on appearance and stereotypes?

Entry Eleven: Top Ten List (chapter 12)

After looking closely at Chris's list in his diary on page 164, develop a list of ten positive items about you.

Entry Twelve: Reactions (chapters 13 and 14)

Now that Torey knows Ali and Bo very well due to the Creed disappearance, what does he do or not do to cover up the truth? Develop specific actions he has made. Do you think this cover up will help or hurt him? Think in the short and long run of things.

Entry Thirteen: Secrets (chapter 15)

On pages 196 and 197, Ali seems to know many secrets of her classmates. What are these secrets and who are they of? How does she know these? Are there any secrets you know about others that were not directly told to you? What have you or what will you do with this information? Do you think it is appropriate for Ali to share this information with Torey? Why or why not?

Entry Fourteen: Relationships (chapter 16)

When Torey comments, “It didn't feel very good, thinking I had to run my life around this relationship that was starting to get on my nerves,” (206), what relationship is he referring to? Why? What is the context of the situation outside of the Wawa? What happens between Ali and Renee? Why?

Entry Fifteen: The Truth is Out! (chapters 17 and 18)

What happens in chapter 17 that leads to Torey telling the truth of what really happened between him, Bo, and Ali? What is the result of his confession? Why? Look back to entry 12, how does the “truth” that was told back them effecting him now?

Entry Sixteen: The Psychic (chapter 19)

Who are Isabella and her Aunt Vera? Why are Torey and Ali there to see Isabella? Does she know what has happened to Chris? What does Aunt Vera tell Torey? What does he take this message to mean? Do you agree with his interpretation? Why or why not?

Entry Seventeen: Torey's Psychic Reading (chapters 20 and 21)

As a result of meeting Aunt Vera, what has happened to Torey during these two chapters? What events have lead up to him finding the hole and saying “I've just been from hell,” (291)? Do you think he made the right actions to help find Chris? Could he have found Chris another way? Why or why not?

Entry Eighteen: In Hell? (chapter 22)

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kpraser@att.net

When Mrs. Adams visits Torey, why does she tell him, “You were not in hell,” (306)? What explanation does she give to help Torey come to accept the reality of his experience in the cave? Does her explanation help calm him down and closer to accepting the truth? Why or why not?

Entry Nineteen: Back in Rothborne (chapter 23)

Looking closely at the final response Torey receives, number 4, how does this response convince Torey that Chris is still alive? What do you think happened to Christopher Creed? Why?

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

The Body of Christopher Creed by Carol Plum-Ucci

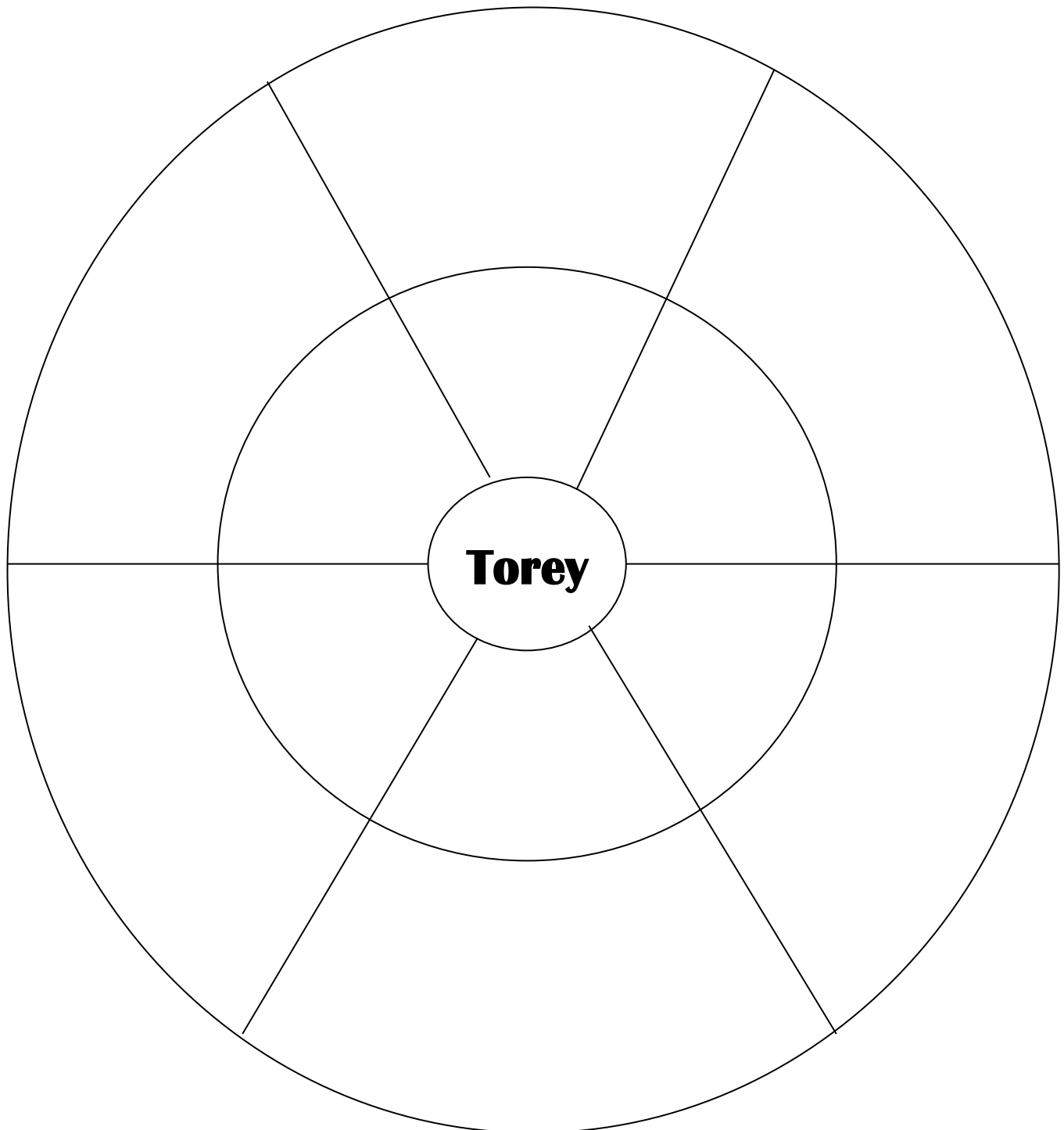
Notes for Part _____: Chapters _____

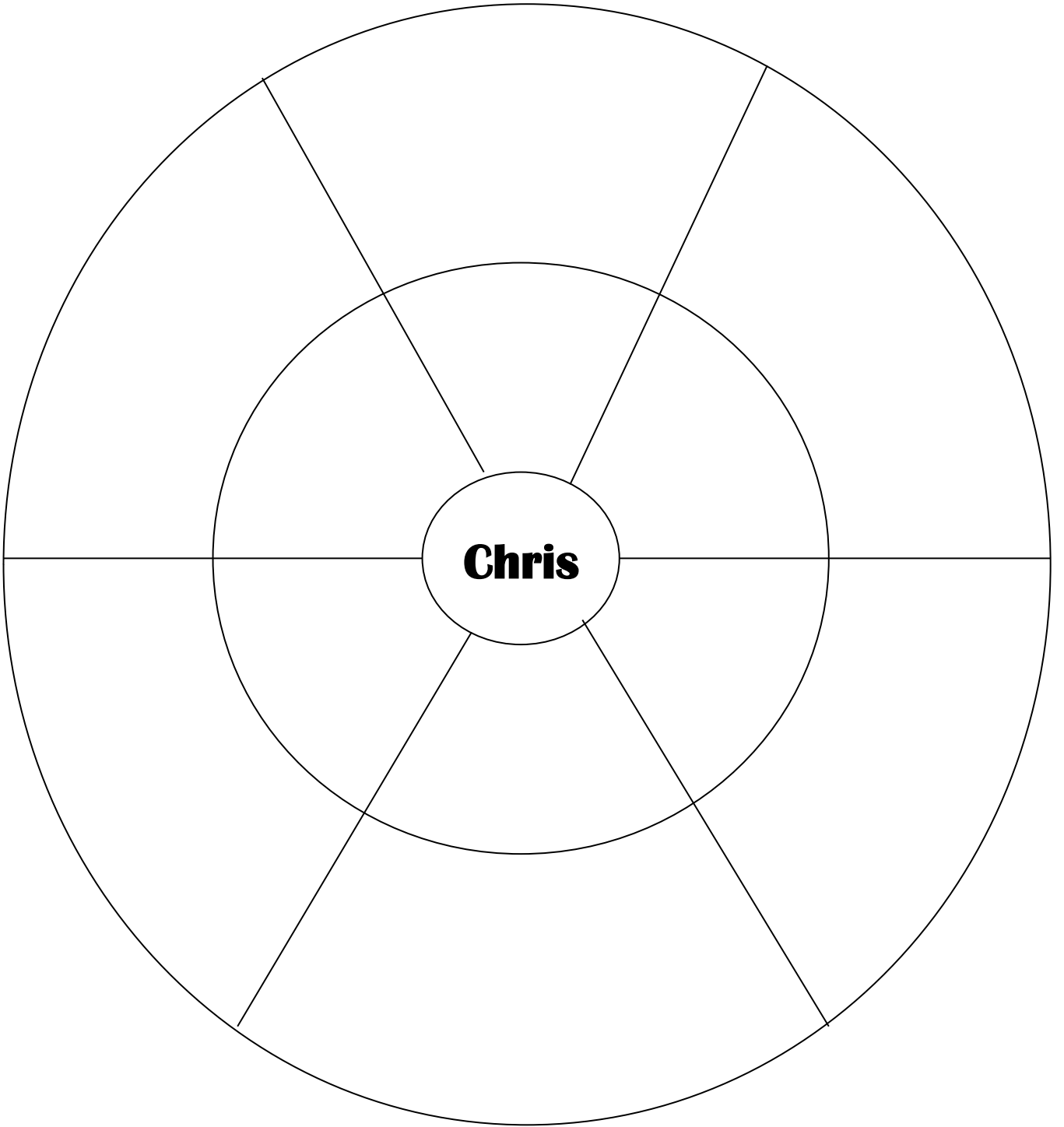
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Summary of Part		

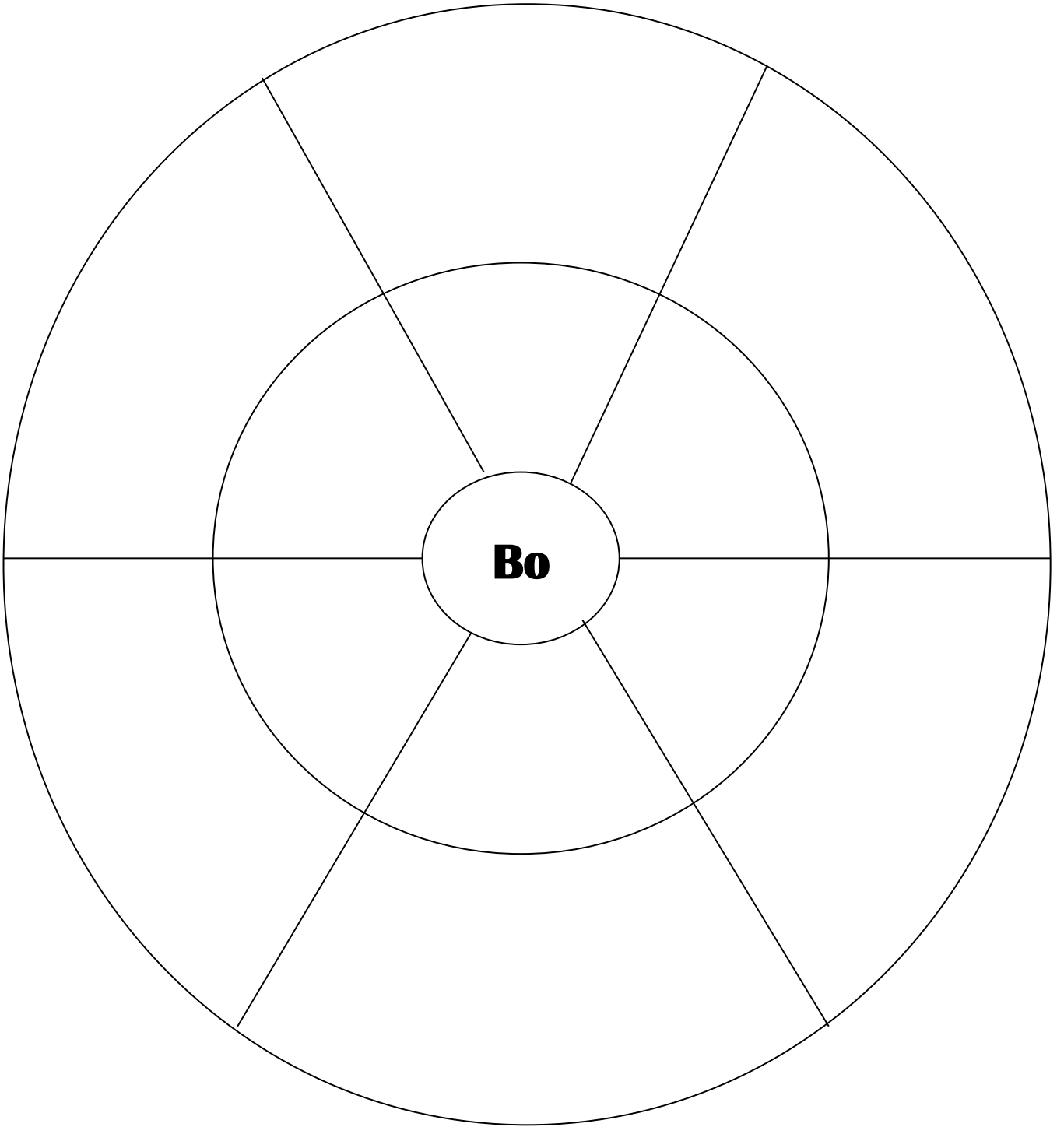
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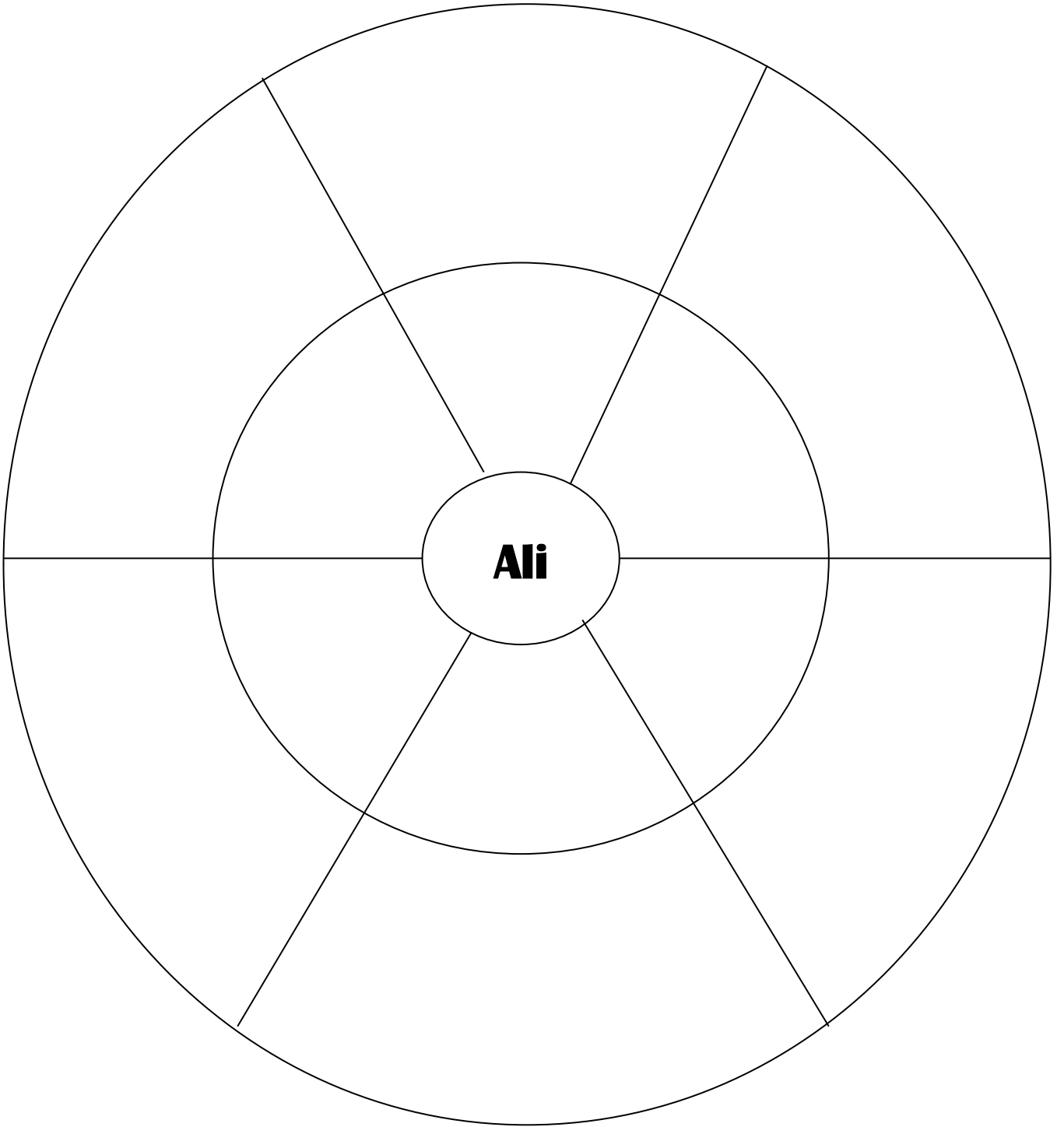
Target Notes for The Body of Christopher Creed

For the character below, complete the target diagram. In the inner circle, include the individuals this character has relationships with or knows well. You need the name and give three words to describe this individual. In the outer circle, include what the persons listed in the inner circle think about the character listed in the center. You will add to these sets of notes after each of the four parts of this novel.









Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Changes of Characters in The Body of Christopher Creed

Complete the following diagram below focusing the changes the characters labeled below go through in the novel. For Torey, focus on his changes as the protagonist of the novel in regards to how he understands his role in helping others. For the other characters, focus on what is Torey's understanding of these other characters based upon the information he shares in the novel. In each square or circle, include a plot event and explanation.

