

Lesson 5 (pages 22 - 27)



1. Describe what is happening in the picture. Predict what might happen.

Thick fog shrouded the forest and it was hard to find the way. Rose's feet were muddy and frozen. Her clothes were torn, and at last she arrived at her usual place.

She stood by the clearing as though in a dream. Everything was so different it was hard to think clearly.

Behind her were figures moving through the fog. Tired and fearful soldiers saw danger everywhere.

As Rose Blanche turned to walk away, there was a shot, a sharp and terrible sound which echoed against the bare trees.

2. What is different about Rose in this picture compared to the others pictures of her from pages 1 – 18?
3. Why do you think the author/illustrator has done this?

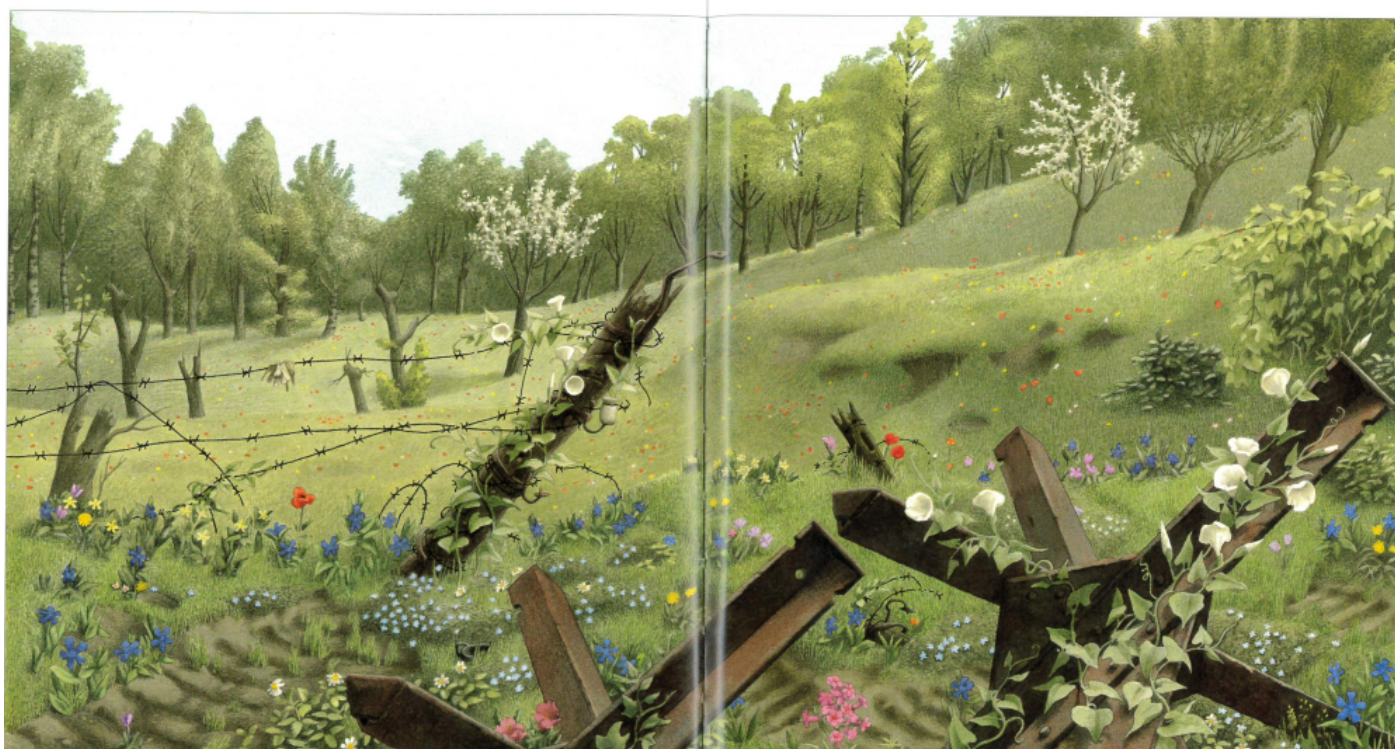
Meanwhile there were different soldiers passing through the little town. Their language was strange, their uniform unfamiliar, and though they were tired, they were cheerful. The war was almost over.



4. What has happened? Use evidence from the text and the illustration to explain your answer.

Rose Blanche's mother never found her little girl.
As the weeks went by another, gentler invasion began.

The cold retreated, fresh grasses advanced across the land.
There were explosions of colour. Trees put on their bright new uniforms and paraded in the sun. Birds took up their positions and sang their simple message.
Spring had triumphed.



5. What happened to Rose Blanche? Who else may have been involved?
6. What is the 'gentler invasion' in line 2?
7. Compare the colour in the final illustration with all of the other illustrations in the book. Explain your ideas about the artist's choices.
8. The seasons (Winter and Spring) play an important role in the story: how?
9. Ask an adult to help you to research 'Rose Blanche'. What does this mean to you? Why do you think the book has this title?
10. Finally, write a book review of Rose Blanche. Remember to give a synopsis of the story (without giving away the ending) and include some of the messages within. State whether you enjoyed it or not and why. Suggest who might enjoy this book.