Narrator: We are presenting a scene from Adina Gerwitz’s Zebra Forest, a realistic fiction story about siblings Annie and Rew who live with their grandmother since their father was killed and their mother ran off. Gran is read by ________________, Annie is read by ________________, Rew is read by ________________, Andrew Snow is read by ________________, and I am ________________your narrator. Everything that Rew and Annie believe about their father is about to change as an escaped inmate breaks into their home in the middle of the night.

Andrew Snow: Just stay quiet and I won’t hurt anyone. I’ll stay only as long as I need. Just stay quiet and you’ll be fine. (yelling) Stop! Go anywhere or call anyone and I’ll hurt her! You see? I will! (pause) That’s it. I don’t want to hurt anyone, like I said. Don’t make me.

Rew: You’re from the prison. (whispering). Back there.

Andrew Snow: (nodding) And they are looking for me, but they won’t look here. There was a riot earlier tonight, and a lot of guys broke out. Most of them went up the highway. That’s where they’ll go. No one else went for the woods. So if you’ll just stay patient, I’ll wait it out, and I’ll go in a while. It won’t be long. Stay quiet, and you’ll be fine, and I’ll go away.

Rew: All right. Don’t hurt her. Will you go in the morning?

Andrew Snow: Not in the morning. But as soon as it’s safe. I’m leaving the country. I can’t travel for at least a week, though. Maybe more.

Gran: Andrew Snow. Let go of my Annie.

Rew: No Gran, this isn’t Andrew Snow. This is a man who came from the prison. On the other side of the Zebra.

Gran: Andrew, let go of her. This is Annie.

Andrew Snow: I didn’t know. I didn’t know you were here (voice trembling).

Rew: You? You’re Andrew Snow? (screaming) Liar! You’re a liar!

Andrew Snow: No, it’s true.

Rew: (yelling) You’re not Andrew Snow! Our father’s dead. Gran said it! Somebody killed him! He’s dead.
**Andrew Snow:** Last time I saw you, you were just a little baby.

**Rew:** (yelling) Gran! Tell him! Tell him what happened to our father!

**Gran:** (excitedly) Andrew, Andrew, you’re back!

**Rew:** (shouting) He’s not, he’s not! Don’t say that! He’s a bad man! This man ran away from prison.

**Gran:** You didn’t, you didn’t. Did you, Andrew?

**Andrew:** I did. There was a riot. I-I just ran.

**Gran:** (afraid) No! No, you couldn’t have!

**Rew:** (screaming) Make him get out! He’s a liar! Make him get out! Get out! Both of you! Both of you! Liars! Liars!

**Annie:** (whispering) Stop it! Stop it! Be quiet!

**Rew:** Get out! Get out!

**Andrew:** Stop it! Stop it! I’m not going. I’m here now, and I am going to stay here. Stop it, or I’ll make you stop.

**Narrator:** Gran lied to her grandchildren about the death of their father. Now that their father is back, how will she reconcile the story she told them? Will they accept their father and forgive Gran? To find out what Rew and Annie’s life has been like with Gran and to see if the family can be reunited, read *Zebra Forest* by Adina Gewirtz.