

Name _____

“On Compassion” - Barbara Ascher

DIRECTIONS: Read “On Compassion” on p. 193-195 with your partner, alternating paragraphs as you go. Use the reading guide below to stop, reflect upon, and discuss the passage.

Read paragraphs 1-5. Which statement best summarizes it?

Read para 6: “Was it fear or compassion that motivated the gift?” Which details support your claim.

Read paragraphs 7 & 8. How does this scenario compare to the first one?

Read paragraphs 9-12.

What solution to homelessness is introduced in paragraph 10. What does Ascher think of this possibility?

Why does Ascher use the allusion to Dickensian London in paragraph 12?

Read paragraphs 13-14

Why do you think he says empathy is the “mother of compassion”?

What figurative language does Ascher use to describe compassion?