

Number the Stars Essay by Mohamed A.

Book Review

In Lois Lowry's "Number The Stars" the theme is "How pride and human decency inspire an individual to do the 'right' thing. That to me means that a person is inspired to do the right thing by seeing how others do the right thing. The main character, Annemarie Johansen, seems to take the greater part of doing such an act. In the story, Annemarie does the right thing when she has to help her best friend.

One example of how pride and human decency inspires someone to do the right thing is when the German soldiers came into the Johansen residence to search for the Rosens and Annemarie, although she was scared, did the right thing and didn't say the truth that there was no great-aunt Birte. That to me is an example of how pride and human decency inspire an individual to do the right thing because by her seeing how her parents did the right thing to help her best, Ellen, and her family, she also did the right thing. Another example of how pride and human decency inspires an individual to do the right thing is when Annemarie finds the package given to Mr. Rosen by Peter, Annemarie's dead sister's ex-fiance, and she, knowing that everyone put so much effort to help others, immediately found a way to help. That to me is an example of how pride and human decency can inspire an individual because Annemarie realized that everyone lend a helping hand and that inspired her to help by taking the package back to whom ever needed it.

Lastly, another example is when Annemarie sees Ellen cry at the "funeral" of her made up "great-aunt Birte" and doesn't tell her the truth that there is no great-aunt

Birte. When Annemarie found out that there was no great-aunt Birte, she also found out on her own that it was to be kept a secret for her friend's safety. So it is an example of how pride and human decency inspire an individual to do the right thing because when she realized that nobody was telling her, she also did the "right thing" and didn't tell her best-friend.

I can relate the theme to myself because I also get inspired to do the right thing with pride and human decency; when I see how people help others. I get inspired and I also want to help others so I can be recognized for good and not bad. The theme is also related to the book because most, if not all the characters in the story get inspired to do the right thing from pride and human decency. One character for example is Annemarie. She is inspired to do the right thing from observing how others do so. We all must create an ideal of human decency, and not an insular one. That is what Lois Lowry demonstrates to us in her book, "Number The Stars".