



# Freaky Green Eyes

By Joyce Carol Oates

- **Read the preface page** of the novel (see text below) and guess what this could be about.
- **Free-writing:** Turn over this sheet and start writing whatever comes to your mind. What might the person be referring to? What sounds does she hear? What's the story? Write non-stop for 10 minutes.
- **Meet** with one or two classmates and discuss your ideas.

*It was nothing.  
That night. I lie awake listening.  
No. I am not listening. It's thunder, pelting rain.  
Mixed with my dreams.  
In another part of the house. Muffled, through the walls. A raised voice. The words are indistinct, but the rhythm of the voice is unmistakable.  
The second voice, the weaker voice. I feel scorn for it. The deeper voice rolls over it, obliterates it.  
Like thunder rolling across the sky.*

*I'm awake, sitting up in bed. Kicking at the covers.  
It was nothing, only thunder. Now rain is pelting against my windows.*

*It was nothing. Only thunder.  
In the bathroom mirror Freaky Green Eyes glares at me. I feel a crazy urge to claw at those eyes.*

## **Do the right thing:**

Write down 3 names of people in your environment who are very important to you. Imagine that one of them has committed a serious crime and you know about it.

What would you do? Discuss your answers in your group. Then write a paragraph summing up some of the options.

If I knew that ..... has ..... I would.....