



**Anne B. Real**  
**(USA 2003, 90 Minutes)**  
**Director: Lisa France**  
**Study Guide**

**Synopsis**

This coming of age tale set in the heart of New York is about a teenage girl Cynthia who uses the Diary of Anne Frank as her muse, as well as the events in her life, to create her own journal through rhymes. Cynthia is an introverted girl depressed since the death of her father who longs to be a Hip Hop star but hides her true talent from others, only practicing her rhymes in the privacy of her own bathroom. On top of that, her brother Juan, an addict, steals her writings to support his habit by selling them to another rapper who doesn't have half the talent Cynthia does. Will Cynthia finally break free from all that is holding her back and embrace her true self?

**Themes in the film**

Diary of Anne Frank  
Adolescence, Depression  
Drug Addiction  
Hip Hop/Poetry, Self-Expression

**Study Questions**

- Have you or people you know dealt with a death in the family? In what ways did it affect the family structure?
- What about drug addiction in the family? How did the addicted person's behavior change? How did the family deal with the changes in the addicted person's behavior?
- Anne Frank writes "You are responsible for your own upbringing". In your opinion, what does she mean by that?

**Classroom Exercises**

- Take a look at random entries from Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl. What are the issues touched upon in Anne's diaries that are relevant to all teenagers?
- Have students bring in their favorite (appropriate) hip hop lyrics and recite them to the class.

**Discussion Questions**

- Why did Cynthia continue to trust Juan after it seems clear that his crack

- addiction has changed him?
- Why do you think Cynthia's teacher changed his name from Dominguez to Smith?
  - List the correlations between the character Cynthia and Anne Frank.
  - What happened to Cynthia that finally gave her the push to perform her rhymes in public?