The Friday everything changed

Comprehension:

1. The boys are upset at the idea of the girls carrying the water bucket because the water bucket is a way to get away from school and symbolizes power, strength and to do something “real”.
2. The strategies the boys used to pressure the girls to not carry the water bucket were, bullying them and teasing them, Arnold tried convincing Alma but Alma didn’t listen, and not letting them play softball. The girls stuck together and they worked together.
3. I think that a female character is telling the story. She thinks that Ms. Ralston is doesn’t care about the conflict because she was raised in a different town where girls had rights, until Ms. Ralston came to play softball and scored a home run. I think that the story is being told from the girls point of view.
4. The setting is in a rural area in Ontario (Toronto Maple Leaf’s), close to a railway (because that is where they get the water from) and probably before World War Two. The setting intensifies the conflict because there isn’t enough development and the fact the boys only carry the water bucket make it more like a tradition which would be hard to change. I think that the conflict is more of a person to society type of conflict because it’s Alma (and girls) against the society and the traditions the society has made over the years. However, it is also a person to person conflict because it’s the girls and Alma against the boys.
5. The protagonist is Alma because she was the one who asked the question and made things start to change.
6. That Friday everything changed when Ms. Ralston started playing softball and then she scored a home run. When she scored, a home run it showed the boys that the girls are just as capable as boys in anything an gave the girls more equality and rights. The message the author is bringing out to us is gender equality and perseverance.

Vocabulary:

* Galvanized - Galvanization is the process of applying a protective zinc coating to steel or iron, to prevent rusting. (my words- when you apply zinc over metal to protect from rusting)
* Remotest - (of a chance or possibility) unlikely to occur: (my words – small chance of happening)
* Intoxicated - mentally or emotionally exhalated (my words- to not be aware of surroundings and behaviour)
* Ominous - giving the impression that something bad or unpleasant is going to happen; threatening; inauspicious: (my words - feeling something bad is going to happen)
* Supplementary – to fulfil what is lacking (my words - to provide what is not available)
* Forlornly – desolate or dreary; unhappy or miserable as, as in feeling condition or appearance (my words- not feeling good (appearance and feeling))
* Earnestly – serious in intention, purpose, or effort; sincerely. (my words - to do something you want to do)
* Gloating - To feel or express great, often malicious, pleasure or self-satisfaction (my words - feeling good internally)
* Transfixed - cause (someone) to become motionless with horror, wonder, or astonishment: (my words- to make someone speechless or motionless and wonder)
* Pirouetting – the unique movement that mimics a dancer; spiralling; twirling (my word - dancing and twirling)