“Steps”

By Scott Loring Sanders

**Background**: <https://scottloringsanders.com/>

1. How would you describe the protagonist at the beginning of the story, the middle of the story and then the end? Find an example of direct characterization and indirect characterization for evidence.

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|  | **Beginning** | **Middle** | **End**  |
| **Adjective**  |  |  |  |
| **Evidence: Direct characterization (use quotes or paraphrase)**  |  |  |  |
| **Adjective** |  |  |  |
| **Evidence: Indirect characterization**  |  |  |  |

1. What life experiences do you think led him to become an alcoholic?
2. What made him seek help?
3. Out of all the author’s life experiences, why do you think he chose to recount the story of his son and dogs on the hike? Why is this anecdote the possible “turning point” in his life?
4. What is the significance of the title?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Character | Id | Ego | SuperEgo |
| Protagonist  |  |  |  |

1. What is the story saying about the formation of one’s identity?