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| **“Golpe de Estado” (*Shattered*) by Dian Curtis Regan (Day 1, Nov. 9)** |
| **Reading Strategies List**(add others to this list) | * Recognizing connections among character, setting and plot (powerful strategy to use to think beyond the surface level of what happens in a story)
* Stop and Ask Questions
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| **Introduction and Historical Background to “Golpe de Estado” from *Shattered*** | *Shattered* is a collection of stories about children and war, edited by Jennifer Armstrong. This short story is a fictionalized account of an actual coup that took place in Caracas, Venezuela in 1992. A coup is when a group of people tries to overthrow an existing government. Coups are often staged by military officers.In the time of the attempted coup, Venezuela was plagued by high unemployment, extreme poverty, and government corruption. Many in Venezuela blamed the government of President Carlos Andres Perez for the problems faced by the Venezuelan people. Hugo Chavez, a former military officer who was supported by the poor and working class citizens of Venezuela, attempted to overthrow the government of President Perez on February 4, 1992. The coup attempt failed, and President Perez remained in office while Hugo Chavez was sent to prison. Hugo Chavez spent two years in jail. In 1998, after several failed attempts to overthrow the government, Hugo Chavez was elected president of Venezuela in an open and free election. As of 2006, he continued to hold the office of president of Venezuela.  |
| **Vocabulary** | golpe de estado (Spanish):embassy kids:oil-patch kid:riffs:rag:Caraqueno:expat kids:sin (Spanish):salvo conductor (Spanish):queso de mano (Spanish):tortas (Spanish):obnoxious:riled:martial law:bienvenido (Spanish):adelante (Spanish):empanada (Spanish):Chinotto:glutted:betrayal:cavalry:anxiety: |
| **Guided Reading Stopping Points**Record your questions and other thoughts you may have at **each** stopping point in the story. | Stop 1: |
| Stop 2: |
| Stop 3: |
| Stop 4: |
| **After-reading Discussion/Written Responses to Questions** | What is this story about so far?What is the setting of this story? What effect does it have on Zach and his mother?How does Zach feel about the coup attempt? What in this story makes you think so? |
| **Setting Information** | The setting is more than the physical environment; in addition to the South American location, and the heat and humidity, the setting includes the time period and the conditions in which the story and the people of Caracas live. Poverty, fear and the political situation all play an important role in creating the setting.Who the characters are, where and when they lived and what happens to them are interwoven in stories (character, setting and plot).  |