Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“A Mother in Mannville” discussion questions

1. What is the narrator’s first impression of Jerry, and how does her attitude change during the course of the story?
2. In what ways does the relationship that develops between the narrator and Jerry like a mother/son relationship?
3. What do you think causes Jerry to lie about his mother? Why do you think the narrator does not suspect Jerry is lying?
4. After deciding to go see Jerry’s mother, the narrator changes her mind, saying, “it was none of my concern.” What type of conflict was she facing? Do you agree with her decision?
5. The narrator judges Jerry’s mother harshly for not being a bigger part of her son’s life. What is ironic about her own behavior at the end of the story?
6. Do you find the narrator’s reaction to Jerry sensitive or insensitive? Explain.
7. What is integrity? Give of an example of when integrity was a factor in your own life.