

DEAR CANADA

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Exiles from the War

The War Guests Diary of Charlotte Mary Twiss

By Jean Little

1. What is a War Guest child? Where did they come from and why did they come to Canada? Why would a parent send a child away like this? Would your family ever consider doing something like this?
2. Charlotte is disappointed when she first meets Jane because Jane is only nine and not someone her age she can play with. Still, after a while, she starts to think of Jane (and her brother Sam) as family. What does “family” really mean?
3. The war bombings in England upset the Browning and the Twiss families to no end. How does George react to the war? Why does Sam feel guilty? Where are Sam and Jane’s family? What about Jane’s dog?
4. Charlotte pretends to be her sister Eleanor in her letters to Bertie. Who is Bertie and why does Charlotte write to him? What happens to Bertie in the end? Does he ever meet the true Eleanor?