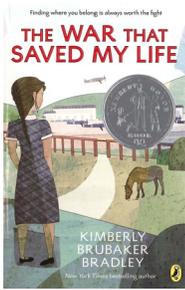


Books by the Stack



War that Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.

Why you'll like it: family, realistic setting, historical

About the Author: Kimberly Brubaker Bradley was raised in Fort Wayne, Indiana and her first novel was *Ruthie's Gift*. Her children's book, *The War That Saved My Life*, became a New York Times bestseller. (Bowker Author Biography)

Questions for Discussion

1. Who is Ada? Why is Mam ashamed of her? Why do you think Mam “wanted Ada to be a cripple”?
2. What does Ada do when she is at home alone? Why doesn't she share her secret with anyone?
3. How do Ada and Jamie get out of London in the beginning of the story?
4. Why are Ada and Jamie “the only ones not chosen”? Why do they end up at Susan's?
5. When talking about Susan, Ada said, “She doesn't like us. She didn't want us, remember?” Does Susan like the kids? Why or why not?
6. Susan treats Ada with understanding and compassion. How does Ada respond to this kindness? Why?
7. What do you know of Susan? Tell the untold story of Susan's life as you imagine it might be.
8. Ada stated, “I knew Susan wasn't real. Or, if she was a tiny bit real, sometimes, at the very best she was only temporary” (p. 202). Later, on page 216 Ada said, “Susan was temporary. My foot was permanent.” Is Susan temporary for Ada? Why or why not?
9. What does Jamie's teacher think about his 'lefty'?
10. Is Ada capable of learning? Why is she afraid of learning at the beginning of the story?
11. One page 206 Ada said, “Somehow Christmas was making me feel jumpy inside. All this talk about being together and being happy and celebrating – it felt threatening. Like I shouldn't be part of it. Like I wasn't allowed. And Susan wanted me to be happy, which was scarier still.” Why is Ada feeling jumpy, threatened, and scared?
12. When the police officer doesn't believe Ada's story about seeing a spy, what does she do and say to convince him?
13. Why did their Mam come to take them back to the city?

14. How does the way Mam treat Ada differ from the way Susan treats Ada?
15. Why do you think Kimberly Brubaker Bradley decided to title the book *The War That Saved My Life*?
16. In what ways did Susan save Ada's and Jamie's lives? How did Ada and Jamie save Susan's life?

(Questions provided by publisher)



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