War Girls

READING GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

War Girls by various authors

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ABOUT THE BOOK

A moving collection of the untold stories of women in the First World War from nine much-loved authors.

1914: war has broken out across Europe and beyond. Nothing will ever be the same again for those caught up in the conflict.

This collection of short stories explores how the First World War changed and shaped the lives of women forever. A courageous nurse risks her life at the Front Line; a young woman discovers independence and intrigue in wartime London; and a grief-stricken widow defends her homeland amidst the destruction of war.

Through these and other tales, War Girls presents a moving portrait of loss and grief, and of hope overcoming terrible odds.

Includes stories from Adèle Geras, Sally Nicholls, Mary Hooper, Matt Whyman, Berlie Doherty, Melvin Burgess, Anne Fine, Theresa Breslin, plus a story by Rowena House, winner of the Bath Spa Writing for Young People MA competition.
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Discuss the different forms of courage and bravery in these stories.

Discuss different ways the characters cope with loss and grief.

How has this collection changed your perception of the First World War, at all?

Discuss the different roles of the female characters in the stories. What are the similarities? What are the differences?

How do you think the First World War changed things for future generations of women?

Which was your favourite story in the collection, and why?