



The Color of Lies

By CJ Lyons

Tome Society It List Discussion Guide



Pre-reading questions:

1. Would you want to have synesthesia? Why or why not? If so, what form?
2. Who do you trust most in your life? Why do you trust them so much?
3. Think of the title, what is the color of lies? Of truth? Of love, hate, any emotion, what color would you connect with it?

Post-reading questions:

1. Alec finds Ella because of significant childhood memory; Ella was part of the same event but remembers it differently and less clearly. Have you ever had a different perspective than someone who experienced the same event as you? Do you have a significant childhood memory that has shaped your life or that you reflect on often?
2)
2. On page 51 Ella describes Alec, “A stray gust of wind blows against us. I shiver and he angles his body to shield me from it in a move filled with old-fashioned gallantry that is too charming for words. But what I like even better is that he did it without thought—to him, it wasn’t a gesture guided by chivalry but simply his nature.” How did people show their nature? What can you tell from what a person does?
3. Ella’s real name is Elanor, as a young girl she is Nora, she then becomes Ella. How does a change in name signal a metamorphosis? How did she change? What are other examples of people, fictional or real, who have changed their name as a result of a major change in their lives?
4. *Spoiler Alert* Ella learns her entire life was a lie. Joe and Helen are not really her family but part of a long con. Did you see that coming?
5. How do you think Ella’s experiences will affect future relationships? Will she be able to trust again? Would you?
6. Did Joe’s actions at the end redeem him or was it too little late? Is there anything that Joe, Helen or Darrin could have done to redeem themselves?

Post-reading Activities

1. Think about the use of color in the book and design a new cover. Follow the guidelines for the Digital Graphic Cover Redesign competition at <http://www.tomesociety.org/competitions.html> to enter your cover in the Tome competition.
2. Create an epilogue that looks at where Ella, Alec, Rory, and Max are in 1 year (or farther in the future). Follow the guidelines to enter it into the Tome Fan Fiction competition.

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Check out the author’s official website at: www.cjlyons.net