

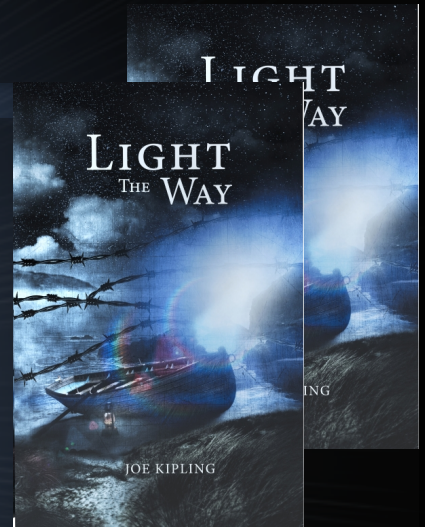
A dramatic, blue-toned illustration of a boat on a beach at night. The scene is set against a dark, starry sky with a bright light source on the right, creating a rainbow that arches over the boat. Several strands of barbed wire are stretched across the foreground, partially obscuring the view. The boat is on a sandy beach, and the water is dark and calm. The overall mood is somber yet hopeful.

LIGHT THE WAY

Reading Group and Discussion Guide

ABOUT THE BOOK

In *Blinded by the Light* we were introduced to fifteen year old MaryAnn, who is living in a world that has been decimated by the Sandman Virus. She's an Alpha, born into a life of privilege and entitlement, protected from the Outside by the Boundary. She worries about the small things: her popularity, having the right boyfriend and wearing the right clothes. A life changing event brings her into contact with The Union and the brother that she thought she'd lost



Having escaped the Boundary and the tyranny of the Neighbourhood and now under the protection of the Union, *Light the Way* follows MaryAnn as she rebuilds her life as a fugitive on the Outside. When a friend asks for help MaryAnn finds herself on a dangerous rescue mission that takes her on a terrifying journey back into the desperate clutches of the Director and the Light

Light the Way is the second book in the Union trilogy

MEET THE AUTHOR



Joe Kipling is a Hull born writer, currently living in a small village in West Yorkshire. After surviving an 80's childhood with the impending threat of nuclear annihilation she developed an obsession with how the world might end. This along with a passion for travelling and successfully avoiding near catastrophe has provided endless inspiration for her writing.

To find out more about an author visits for schools, libraries, youth clubs and YA book clubs contact: Joekipling71@gmail.com

Visit her website at: www.joekipling.com

QUESTIONS FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

- 1) What moral/ethical choices does MaryAnn face throughout the story? What did you think of her choices? How would you have chosen?
- 2) How does MaryAnn and Peter's relationship evolve during the development of the story?
- 3) How do you think MaryAnn fits in with the other Unionists?
- 4) MaryAnn and Charlotte come from very different backgrounds, do you think they share any similarities?
- 5) Do you think that Eric is better able to survive the regime at the Lighthouse than the other residents?
- 6) *The Outside is made up of lots of small Communities. There isn't one person in charge.* How does this differ from our own political environment? How do you think this would work in reality?
- 7) How does MaryAnn and Daryl's relationship evolve during the development of the story?
- 8) *We'd arrived at the lighthouse it was a name that struck terror in the hearts of all Echoe children. It was the monster that hid under our beds and tormented our dreams –* why do you think the Lighthouse is such a scary place for Charlotte?
- 9) *Red, Amber, Green:* Why do you think the Lighthouse separate residents into different groups?

QUESTIONS FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

- 10) *If you hadn't killed him he would have tracked us down and killed us – Do you think that MaryAnn was right to kill the Tracker*
- 11) *He did this for you, don't let his sacrifice be for nothing: Why do you think that Eric sacrifices himself for MaryAnn?*
- 12) If The Light had offered you the opportunity to be part of the 'Select Neighbourhoods Project,' and live in comfort in the Boundary would you have accepted the invite? How would you have felt about the people left Outside?
- 13) The Light originated as a pharmaceutical company who discovered the cure to the Sandman Virus. They chose to sell the cure to people rather than offer it for free. Do you think this is something that could happen in the world we live in today?
- 14) How do the events of the book change and transform MaryAnn. What impact does it have on her relationship with the other characters in the story