

In *Dark Heart*, which character or characters do you admire? Why?

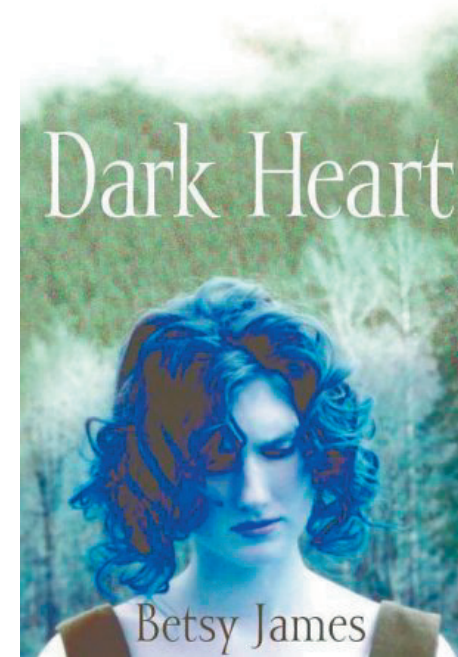
Which character do you most trust? Why?

Which character do you feel sorry for? Why?

FINALLY

Predict what will happen next to Kat. What do you *hope* will happen? What do you think *will* actually happen? (You may want to read *Listening at the Gate*, the conclusion of THE SEEKER CHRONICLES.)

This journal belongs to: _____



READING JOURNAL

Dark Heart is the second in THE SEEKER CHRONICLES, a trilogy of fantasy novels by Betsy James begun in *Long Night Dance* and concluded in *Listening at the Gate*.

The Reading Journal is intended to encourage you to be an active reader. Complete entries as you work your way through the book, noting questions for class discussion as you go along. It is a handy size to slip into the book as a bookmark.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN READING:

Write a definition of a rite of passage:

AFTER YOU HAVE BEGUN READING (or after you're done):
What is the **verb tense** of most of the story?

What is the **POV** (point of view)?

What is the **structure** of the book? Does it have chapters? Is the story told in chronological order? Explain.

What is the **setting**? (Setting is about both *where* and *when*: What is Kat's world like? How much time passes in this story?)

LAST: Answer these questions, and the ones on the back page, after you complete *Dark Heart*.

Think back: What important events have affected Kat before the novel begins?

What did you expect in this novel?

What surprised you in this novel?

What would you find most difficult about living with the Hill people? Explain!

Pages covered by these questions:
Ch. 15-20, pages 195-255

Quote from this section of the novel. You do not need to find a sample from dialogue. Choose a sentence with a metaphor or simile:

Briefly tell the story of what happens in these chapters:

Ask a significant **open-ended question**. (A question that cannot be answered in one or a few words, but that requires thought and explanation.) Do not answer the question, simply ask it.

Choose **one word** that best represents this section of the novel. Explain. [NOTE: There is no “right” answer.]

WHILE YOU ARE READING:
Return to this page & write notes.

CULTURE: People share a culture, but personality and character, goals and opinions vary even when everyone shares the same life and locations. In the eyes of Kat, which of the following people does she like most? Which is more appealing to you? Mention specific things each character does and/or says:

1. Raím

2. Set

3. Esangi

4. Aunt Bian

Pages covered by these questions:
Ch. 1-6, pages 1-64

Quote from this section of the novel. You do not need to find a sample from dialogue. Choose a sentence with a metaphor or simile:

Briefly tell the story of what happens in these chapters:

Ask a significant **open-ended question**. (A question that cannot be answered in one or a few words, but that requires thought and explanation.) Do not answer the question, simply ask it.

Choose **one word** that best represents this section of the novel. Explain. [NOTE: There is no “right” answer.]

Predict what will happen next. What do you hope will happen? What do you think will actually happen?

Describe the Tells. Why is this place important in the story? Creek people seem to both respect and fear the place. Explain why. [Consider: If the name of the Tells is taken literally as “tells,” what do these ruins tell?]

Connect: Why does Kat want to stay here? Why does she want to leave? Can you both want to stay and also be desperate to leave at the same time? What would you do in her place? Explain.

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Pages covered by these questions:
Ch. 10-14, pages 130-194

Quote from this section of the novel. You do not need to find a sample from dialogue. Choose a sentence with a metaphor or simile:

Briefly tell the story of what happens in these chapters:

Ask a significant **open-ended question**. (A question that cannot be answered in one or a few words, but that requires thought and explanation.) Do not answer the question, simply ask it.

Choose **one word** that best represents this section of the novel. Explain. [NOTE: There is no “right” answer.]

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Predict what will happen next. What do you hope will happen? What do you think will actually happen? [NOTE: There is no “right” answer. You are merely guessing. You might guess more than one possibility.]

There are many different stories in this book. Which story or song has the most meaning for Kat, and which to the people of Creek?

Connect: Describe something about Kat’s situation you dislike or find confusing or scary, and explain what you think about it.

Pages covered by these questions:
Ch. 7-10, pages 65-129

Quote from this section of the novel. You do not need to find a sample from dialogue. Choose a sentence with a metaphor or simile:

Briefly tell the story of what happens in these chapters:

Ask a significant **open-ended question**. (A question that cannot be answered in one or a few words, but that requires thought and explanation.) Do not answer the question, simply ask it.

Choose **one word** that best represents this section of the novel. Explain. [NOTE: There is no “right” answer.]

Predict what will happen next. What do you hope will happen? What do you think will actually happen?

Describe the differences between being a boy and a girl in Creek. What are boys required, allowed, and forbidden to do? What are the rules for girls?

Connect: Have you had a experience similar to what Kat is facing with Esangi, who dislikes her? How should people react when faced with unfair dislike or distrust? How would you act the same or differently? Explain.