

In *Listening at the Gate*, which character changed the most? Who became stronger or better as a person? Why do you think this person changed?

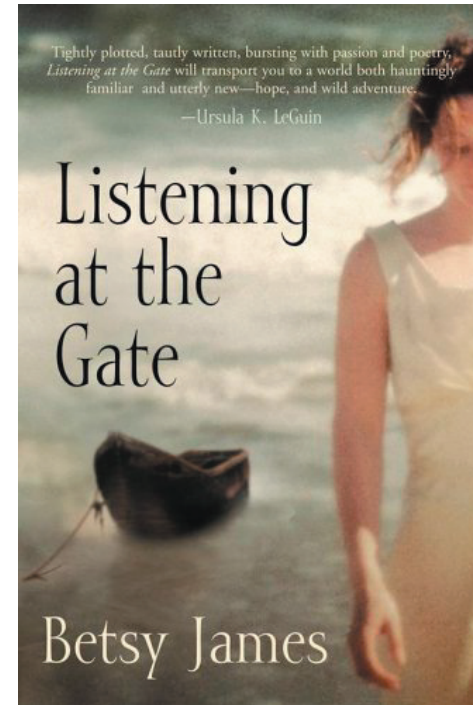
Which character do you most trust? Why?

Which character do you feel sorry for? Why?

FINALLY

Predict what might happen next to Kat, to other characters in the novel and to their world?. What do you *hope* will happen? What do you think *will* actually happen?

This journal belongs to: _____



READING JOURNAL

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

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 *dilemma*:

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) of most of the book?

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 *Listening at the Gate*.

Think back: What important choices that Kat and others made 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 the choices Kat makes in this novel? Choose at least one difficult choice to discuss. Explain!

Pages covered by these questions:
Ch. 28 through *Notes*, pages 363-501

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.

ETHICS: Some choices are easy—to eat, sleep, go to school in the morning. They are things we know we need to do, choices we want to make. But sometimes we make choices that are difficult for us because we are not so certain about the results of our choice. Characters in this novel sometimes find themselves struggling to make very difficult choices. Describe four difficult choices made by Kat and/or others in *Listening at the Gate*:

1.

2.

3.

4.

Pages covered by these questions:
Beginning & Growing, pages 1-30

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:

What is the point of view of these chapters? How does it change?

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 Nall’s home. How are the places she visits with Nall different from the places Kat has known on the mainland? Explain.

Describe: What happens at the Gate, do you think? Could there be more than one explanation for what happens? Explain.

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Pages covered by these questions:
Ch. 13-27, pages 183-362

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.]

The story is told in several different ways—through Kat’s direct storytelling and through short scenes or *vignettes*. Explain which you like better and why.

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

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Pages covered by these questions:
Ch. 1-12, pages 33-182

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?

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Consider Kat’s travels: **Describe** how the pleasures and dangers of traveling are different from the pleasures and dangers once she arrives. Which are better and worse—be specific!

Connect: Have you had an experience similar to Kat’s, of having an important expectation turn out very differently? What did you do? Can you think of anything that might help Kat here?