**CANARY – Rachele Alpine**

**Chapter Discussion Questions**

**August 11 Blog Post:**

What is that is the mood that is established in this blog post. Cite specific words and phrases to support your response.

**Chapter One:**

How is Kate’s father characterized? What type of person is he? What is his main concern? Cite specific words and phrases to support your response.

How is Brett characterized? What type of person is he? What is his main concern? Cite specific words and phrases to support your response.

Whose side are you on in terms of going to Beacon? Brett or his Dad? Explain your view details from the novel.

**Chapter Two:**

Describe the dynamic between Kate and her brother. What is their relationship like? Cite specific words and phrases to support your response.

**August 19 Blog Post:**

What type of school is Beacon? Cite specific words and phrases to support your response.

**Chapter Three:**

How does the school view the basketball team? Cite specific examples from the chapter to support your view.

What is the setting of the school like? How is it different from other schools?

**Chapter Four:**

What are some of the conflicts that have been established not just in this chapter but also in the novel so far? Identify both internal and external conflicts.

Characterize the type of person Kate used to be in the past. Provide specific examples to support your view.

Characterize the type of person she seems to be currently in the novel. Provide specific examples to support your view.

**Chapter Five:**

Based off of what you know about Beacon and its students so far, do you think they are sincere in their desire to sit with Kate? Why or why not? Use specific examples from the novel to support your view.

**Chapter Six:**

Why do you think Brett would, “rather eat with myself than with (Kate’s) new friends?” Do you agree with him? Why or why not?

**September 2 Blog Post:**

How does the metaphor of a fire help to describe the relationship between Brett and his dad? Provide specific examples to support your view.

**Chapter Seven:**

Kate comments, “After people found out about Mom’s illness, they said we were lucky to have time with her, time to prepare. But to me, it was a constant reminder of what was being taken away from me. Instead of being granted time to spend with her, we were granted time to watch her fade away from us.” Whose view do you agree with? The people on the outside or Kate? Explain your opinion.

Water is an important symbol in this chapter. Examine the different ways that it’s used and explain the meaning behind it.

**September 6 Blog Post:**

Examine the words of those who visited Kate’s family at the wake. What do their condolences seem to suggest? How does Kate feel about their words?

**Chapter Eight:**

We’ve now seen Jack three different times (in Kate’s observations on the basketball court, her reflection to when she met him at the cookout, and outside the hotel). What type of person does he appear to be? Describe him in detail using specifics from the text to support your view.

**Chapter Nine:**

When thinking about Jack, Kate says, “The mere thought of what his name could do unnerved me.” What do you think she means by this?

How do we see Kate beginning to change? How is she different from the girl she was at the start of the novel when her father first told her she was going to Beacon? What has caused these changes?

**Chapter Ten and September 14 Blog Post:**

Discuss the significance of swimming in this chapter. Be sure to include both how it relates to Kate’s mom’s illness and Kate’s grieving.

**Chapter Eleven:**

Do you think Jack is interested in Kate? Examine their interactions in the novel so far. What indications are there that he is? What indicators show that he might not be?

**Chapter Twelve:**

How does Kate’s brother feel about her friends? Why might he feel this way?

**Chapter Thirteen:**

Was Kate’s brother’s assessment about her friends and the party right? Why or why not?

How would you describe the character of Ali? Use not just this chapter but also the others you have read to explain your characterization of her. Use specific examples to support your view.

**Chapter Fourteen:**

Why might Kate want to keep her kiss with Jack secret?

**Chapter Fifteen:**

What does it say about Jack that he just shows up to take Kate to school?

Why do you think Kate stalls and tells Jack that she usually goes to school with Brett? Why might she not want a ride from him?

What do you think makes her change her mind and decide to go to school with him?

**Chapter Sixteen:**

When Kate talks about her and Jack being a couple, she says, “I was something more, something powerful and brilliant. I was Jack’s Kate.” Why does she say this? What makes her feel this way?

Kate says that she never wanted to be part of a couple before but with Jack, she does. Why is this different? Why do you think she wants to be in a couple with him?

**October 7 Blog Post:**

How would you describe Kate and Jack’s relationship based off of what she posts on her blog? Would you want to be in a relationship like this? Why or why not?

**Chapter Seventeen:**

In what ways is Jack changing Kate? Discuss specific examples.

**Chapter Eighteen:**

Kate says that basketball is part of her life again. In what ways has it become a part of her life? Talk about specific examples.

When thinking about basketball, Kate says, “It made me feel guilty to think how easy it was to love the game again, but it felt right.” Why do you think Kate feel guilty about loving basketball again?

Kate feels like basketball is connecting her and her father again. In what ways is it connecting them again?

**Chapter Nineteen:**

Do you think it was right of Kate’s parents to make her play in the basketball game? Why or why not?

Do you believe Kate’s teammates are warranted in acting the way that they did? Why or why not?

Do you think Kate made the right decision not to play basketball again? Why or why not?

Why do you think Kate’s parents never mentioned basketball again after the playoff game?

**Chapter Twenty:**

Why do you think Kate decides to talk to Jack about her Mom? What makes her open up?

Kate thanks Jack for letting her talk about her Mom. She says, “Most people either don’t listen or get all weirded out when I bring her up.” Why do you think people act this way?

Kate thinks about how her dad never talks about her mom. How is he dealing with the loss of his wife? Find specific examples from the novel to support your response.

**Chapter Twenty-One:**

Explain why Kate gets so upset with her dad in this chapter.

**Chapter Twenty-Two:**

Why do you think Luke chose to treat Brett the way he did? Evaluate the way everyone reacted to his behavior. What does it say about each person?

**Chapter Twenty- Three:**

What does Brett mean when he says, “Beacon is changing you, Kate?” How has Kate changed? Do you think this change is for the better or worse? Explain why.

Kate thinks that when Luke bullied her brother and she sticks up for him, she has done the right thing. Brett doesn’t agree. Who do you think is right? Brett or Kate? Explain why.

Brett thinks that Kate’s friends are using her because of their father. Do you think they are? Why or why not?

Describe Kate and Brett’s relationship. Use specifics throughout the text to support your view.

**October 17 Blog Post:**

This blog post is an instructional manual for people who have a Beacon basketball player for a boyfriend. Based off of these instructions, what is life as a Beacon basketball player’s girlfriend like? Use specifics from the blog post to support your view.

The blog posts explains that a beacon basketball player girlfriend will have to do and expect certain things. Where do we see examples of the items mentioned already happening in the novel? Find specific examples to match up with the instruction manual.

**Chapter Twenty-Four:**

We are starting to get a different picture of Jack. What is the other side that is slowly starting to come out? Explain with specific details.

Do you think Jack truly cares about Kate? Why or why not?

**Chapter Twenty-Five:**

After fighting with Brett, Jack says, “Brett is the one with the problem.” Do you agree with him? Or was Brett’s response when seeing Jack warranted?

At the end of the chapter, Kate says, “I didn’t know I’d been holding my breath until Jack was safely away.” Why do you think she was holding her breath? What might that mean?

**October 22 Blog Post:**

What do you think Kate means when she says, “There is a thin line between everything/nothing?” Explain using specifics from the novel.

What side do you think Jack is more like? The way Kate views him or the way Brett views him? Why?

**Chapter Twenty-Six:**

When Kate is sitting with Ali’s family at dinner, she reflects, “My world had cracked open when Mom died, but now it felt more whole again. Beacon had given back something missing in my life. Ali, Jack, and Jenna had become my family.” Provide specific examples from the text to demonstrate how they have become part of her family.

**Chapter Twenty-Seven:**

After Kate blows out her candles and is alone with Jack, she, “thought about not what I had lost but what I had gained.” What has she gained?

**Chapter Twenty-Eight:**

It is evident that Ali felt pressured to have sex with Jack. Is this a pressure that is placed on people in high school? Explain why or why not?

What are other pressures that teenagers feel? Why do you think they feel these pressures?

When Ali talks to Kate about the fact that Kate hasn’t had sex with Jack, Ali says, “…he’s thinking about it. Every guy does. If you want to stay with Jack, you’re going to have to put out.” Do you believe this is true? Does sex in high school feel like an expectation?

Kate states, “There was a certain progression of things, and I learned that you could quickly pass each of them up until there was only one place left to go.” Do you believe this is true? Why or why not?

**Chapter Twenty-Nine:**

When Kate sees Ali the next day, Ali doesn’t mention the phone call. Why do you think this is? Is this realistic?

Why do you think Kate decides to slip the bracelet from Julia into her bag? What does this show about her?

What does Kate mean when she says, “I didn’t even understand who I had just become?”

**Chapter Thirty:**

How is Kate and her father’s relationship starting to change? What do you think is causing this change? Do you believe this change will last? Why or why not?

Kate thinks that basketball will bring her dad back to her. Do you believe that is true? Why or why not?

**Chapter Thirty-One:**

Why do you think Kate allows Jack to take her homework home? Predict what you think is going to happen.

**Chapter Thirty-Two:**

What does the boy’s response to the copied homework reveal about them?

What does Jack’s refusal to talk to Kate reveal about him?

What do you think Kate is the most upset with from all of this? Why?

Why does Kate say that she feels alone at the end of the chapter?

**Chapter Thirty-Three:**

Explain how Jack responded to taking Kate’s homework. What does this show about him?

What seems to be the expectation for those on the basketball team and schoolwork? Do you think this is realistic? Where do we see examples of this happening in real life?

**October 29 Blog Post:**

Describe what privilege means to Kate after reading this passage.

What does privilege mean to you? Explain and use examples from your life or the world around you to support your view.

**Chapter Thirty-Four:**

Kate comments, “I would’ve thought I’d be jealous of Dad calling Jack and Luke his boys, but I kind of liked the sound of it.” Why do you think she likes the sound of this? What does she mean?

**Chapter Thirty-Five:**

Many of the characters are starting to show their true selves in this chapter. Where are we seeing this? How does it affect Kate?

Do you think it was right for Jack to keep the information about Luke and Liz from Ali and Kate? Why or why not?

**Chapter Thirty-Six:**

Do you think Kate should have told Ali about what she saw at the party? Why or why not?

Why do you think Ali lashed out at Kate when she found out about Luke? Do you think she was warranted in her response? Why or why not?

Ali tells Kate, “You think you’re so great because Jack is crazy over you. The whole team loves you, but you don’t care. You still have to go and make other people feel bad.” Do you think this is true? Why or why not?

**November 3 Blog Post:**

Why do you think Kate’s Dad only views the one version of Luke?

Kate says, “I had a feeling there was absolutely nothing Luke could do to change Dad’s opinion of him. Not a thing.” Do you believe this is true? Why or why not?

**Chapter Thirty-Seven:**

Why do you think Liz sends pictures of herself to the boys on the team?

What do the boys response to the pictures and comments to Kate say about them and her relationship with Jack?

Why do you think Kate doesn’t say anything to Jack about the pictures on her phone?

**Chapter Thirty-Eight:**

Why do you think Kate allows Ali to take her picture?

Compare Ali’s reason to send a topless photo to Luke to Kate’s decision to send one to Jack. Are they the same? Different? Explain.

**November 9 Blog Post:**

Kate says that, “I stand in front of you with nothing to hide.” Do you agree with this? Has she exposed it all to Jack? Or does she have something more to hide? Explain your view with details from the novel.

**Chapter Thirty-Nine**

Ali promises to delete the picture of Kate off the camera and Kate thinks, “I had no reason not to believe her.” Do you agree? Should Kate trust Ali? Why or why not?

**Chapter Forty:**

What do you think made Kate decide to sleep with Jack? Was it one thing or a combination of things?

**Chapter Forty-Five:**

Examine Brett’s reasons for wanting to enlist in the Army. Are these valid reasons for him to want to join?

Examine Kate’s dad’s speech where he tells Brett that he is, “…not the type of person who goes into the Army.” Do you believe this is a realistic way some people view the Armed Forces? Why or why not? How do you view the Armed Forces?

Brett’s dad says that the Army is “…a last resort for kids who have spent their whole lives messing up.” Brett feels like all his dad’s assumptions about people who go into the Army are true about him. Is Brett like one of these boys? Or is he wrong? Explain with examples from the text.

Brett asks his dad, “If I’m not one of those boys, then who am I?” Who is Brett? How would you describe him?

Do you think that Brett’s decision to join the Army is a realistic one?

**Chapter Forty-Two:**

When Kate asks her dad why Brett signed the papers, he responds, “Because your brother doesn’t think about how dangerous this can be.” Do you agree with that? Do you think Brett doesn’t understand? Why or why not.

Why do you think Brett went ahead and signed the papers to the Army even though his dad didn’t want him to?

What do you think the real reason Kate’s dad is so upset about Brett enlisting is?

Examine the different ways that Brett’s decision will affect his dad, Kate, and himself.

**Chapter Forty-Three:**

When Kate tries to talk with Brett, he says, “I really don’t think you’re in any position to tell me what’s a god idea and what isn’t. You haven’t exactly been my biggest supporter lately.” What do he mean by this? Do you think this is true? Why or why not? Provide specific examples to support your view.

What are some of the conflicts that occur in this chapter; both internal and external conflicts. Select two of them and hypothesize how they might be resolved.

How does Jack react to Kate’s news about her brother? How does this reaction change throughout the chapter? What does this reveal about Jack?

Why do you think Jack told the boys about Kate’s brother? What does this reveal about him?

When Jack tries to apologize to Kate for telling the boys about Brett, Kate asks, “Then why the hell didn’t you stop it?” Why do you think Jack didn’t stop it?

Kate makes the decision not to fight with Jack and be mad at him. In your opinion, was this the right choice? Why or why not?

**Chapter Forty-Four:**

Kate is upset that Jack told Ali about her brother. Do you think Jack was in the wrong telling Ali about Brett enlisting?

When Ali tries to express her sympathy about Brett enlisting, Kate says, “Nobody ever cared about him before,” and feels like Ali doesn’t have the right to care about him now. Do you agree with her? Why or why not?

Kate tells Ali, Don’t be sorry. What the hell are you apologizing for? You don’t understand anything.” What doesn’t Ali understand?

**Chapter Forty-Five:**

Ali apologizes to Kate and tells her that if she ever wants to talk, Ali will listen. Kate hopes that is true. Do you believe it is? Why or why not? Use specific examples from the novel to support your view.

**Chapter Forty-Six:**

Kate and her dad both are against Brett enlisting in the Army, yet Brett says what he is doing is a good thing. What are your thoughts? Whose side would you be on and why?

Brett tells Kate to look in the mirror, that she would be surprised at how much she’s become like her father. Do you think this is true? Why or why not? In what ways has she become like her father?

When talking to Brett, Kate’s dad says, “I’ve already lost you. You openly defied me…” Do you believe this is why her dad is upset at Brett or are there other reasons causing his anger? What might these reasons be?

**Chapter Forty-Seven:**

Why do you think Kate watches her brother leave and doesn’t try to stop him?

**Chapter Forty-Eight:**

Brett tells Kate that their dad is choosing his team over them. Do you agree? Why or why not? Use examples from the novel to support your view.

**Chapter Forty-Nine:**

Why do you think Kate’s father is avoiding talking about Brett? What might be his reasons?

**Chapter Fifty:**

Do you think this trip is a good idea for Kate? Why or why not?

**Chapter Fifty-One:**

What seems to be going on between Jack and Luke in this chapter? What is the conflict and how is it affecting those around them?

Jack tells Kate he never would say what Luke is claiming about Brett. Do you believe him? Why or why not?

Kate feels like people aren’t listening to her. In what ways is this true. Who doesn’t seem to be listening to her? Why? What is she trying to say?

**November 27 Blog Post:**

Kate talks about how broken she really is. In what ways is she broken? What has caused this to happen?

Do you think Kate’s poem is realistic? Do people often wear masks? When? Why?

What do you think will happen when Kate’s mask comes off and everyone sees what she is hiding underneath?

**Chapter Fifty-Two:**

Kate compares Brett enlisting to her mom dying? Why? How are the two similar? Describe her feelings.

What do Kate’s friends behavior toward her show about them?

Kate says that in her world, nothing felt right. What are the things in her world that don’t feel right? List everything she is dealing with.

**Chapter Fifty-Three:**

Kate continues to get mad at her friends (specifically Ali here) for not understanding. Do you think it’s fair of her to be mad at them? Why or why not?

Kate says that when she was with Julia, she relaxed. Why?

**Chapter Fifty-Four:**

Evaluate Kate’s friends’ behavior in the car. Does Kate have a right to be upset? Why or why not?

**Chapter Fifty-Five:**

Kate begins to eat with Julia and says, “Julia welcomed me quickly. I was surprised how open and nice she was, especially after the way I’d treated her.” Why do you think Julia was so nice to Kate?

Compare and contrast Kate’s experiences eating lunch with Julia and eating lunch with her friends.

Ali says that Julia is weird and not part of Beacon because, “She only goes to our school because her mom teachers math. Otherwise, she wouldn’t be able to afford Beacon.” Kate reminds Ali that she is in the same situation and Ali says that it’s not the same. Your dad is part of Beacon. You’re a different part of Beacon.” What does Ali mean by that?

What does Kate mean when she says, “You talk about Beacon as if it were a piece of property you were buying.” What does she mean by that?

Kate tells her friends, “I don’t know why Ali thinks I need to choose sides. I can be friends with everyone.” Do you believe this is true? Why or why not?

**Chapter Fifty-Six:**

Ali tells Kate that she might want to consider spending more time with Jack and try to be happier. Do you think she has a right to say this? Why or why not?

Kate tells Ali that her and Jack are fine. Do you believe they are? Why or why not?

Kate watches Ali and Jenna walk away at the end of the chapter and comments, “I watched the two of them walk out of the gym, confused again and wondering if Ali was my friend or my enemy.” Which do you think it is? Provide examples for both sides. Where do we see Ali being a friend and where do we see her being an enemy?

**Chapter Fifty-Seven:**

When Jack tries to talk to Kate, he says, “Forget it, you wouldn’t understand.” What is he talking about? What wouldn’t she understand?

What is Kate trying to get Jack to understand?

Jack says that he understands at the end of the chapter and Kate believes that he does. Do you? Why or why not?

**December 11 Blog Post:**

Kate views Jack as a savior; someone who has helped bring her world back together. In what ways has he done this? Use specific examples from the novel.

Do you think it’s right for Kate to look at Jack as a way to define her? Why or why not?

Have you seen people who have done this? When? Is it usually and good thing or a bad thing? Why?

**Chapter Fifty-Eight:**

Kate says that she decided to go to Jack’s party not because of Ali’s warnings but because she wanted to be there. Do you believe this is true? Why or why not?

How does peer pressure come into play in this chapter? Where does it seem like Kate is pressured into doing things she might not want to do?

**Chapter Fifty-Nine:**

How do you feel about the way Jack treated Kate? Did he have a reason to be mad at her? Why or why not?

What kind of friendship does Kate have with Ali at this point? Would you even describe it as a friendship? Why or why not?

Why do you think Luke is interested in Kate?

**Chapter Sixty:**

Kate says that, “I closed my eyes and pretended he was that Jack and I was that Kate. I let myself remember and remember and remember in order to forget, forget, forget.” What does she mean by this? What was she trying to remember? What did she want to forget?

**Chapter Sixty-One:**

What does it say about Jack that he walked out on Kate?

**Chapter Sixty-Two:**

Why do you think Kate chose to ask Brett for help?

What does it say about Kate and Brett’s relationship that he was willing to come and get her with no questions asked?

**Chapter Sixty-Three:**

Why do you think Kate refuses to tell Brett what happened?

Kate thinks, “Lucky? What did I have to feel lucky about now?” What does she still have?

**Chapter Sixty-Four:**

Kate thinks about telling Brett the truth but then reflects, “…the truth shamed me. I was the one who had let Luke into the bed. I had let it happen.” Is this true? Did Kate let it happen? Explain your view.

Kate doesn’t want to tell her brother what happened because the truth shames her. Do you think this is a realistic emotion? Do people stay silent because of shame?

What does Kate calling Jack over and over again say about her?

What does Jack not calling Kate back say about him?

**Chapter Sixty-Five:**

Kate looks at herself in the mirror and reflects, “I saw myself, but nothing in my reflection looked familiar. I was a stranger, someone I might pass on the street and not even notice.” Why does she feel this way?

**Chapter Sixty-Six:**

Does Ali have the right to be angry? Why or why not?

Why do you think Kate made the choice to tell Ali that Luke raped her?

Ali says, “People get wasted and hook up all the time, and they don’t go calling it rape. Just because you regret it when you’re sober doesn’t mean you didn’t want it when you were drunk.” React to this statement. Is this a common way of thinking?

Kate is still a bit confused by what happened that night and what she perceives her role in it to be. Explain what happened that night. How is Kate the victim and Luke is at fault.

Kate says that she will tell everyone the truth and Ali asks who she thinks people will believe; Kate or Jack and Luke. Who do you think people will believe? Why?

Ali tells Kate, “I will destroy you.” Do you believe this? Why or why not?

**Chapter Sixty-Seven:**

How do you feel about Kate calling Jack? Do you think she should? Why or why not?

What does his lack of response show about him?

What does Kate’s dad’s actions when he comes into talk to her reveal about him?

Kate wants to tell her dad what happened but chooses not to tell him. She says, “He didn’t want to hear about this. Not now. Not ever.” What makes her feel this way? Do you think this statement is true?

**Chapter Sixty-Eight:**

Do you think Kate should have tricked Jack into talking with her? Why or why not?

**Chapter Sixty-Nine:**

Why do you think Kate decided to reveal the truth to Julia?

Julia tells Kate that she needs to tell someone what happened. Kate says that no one would believe her. Do you think this is true? Why or why not?

Julia talks about how the basketball team gets away from everything. She says, “Maybe nobody has said anything because they’re afraid.” Do you think this is true? What might people be afraid of? What could stop them from speaking up?

Kate tells Julia that she’s not strong enough to speak up, but Julia says she’s wrong. Where do we see examples in the novel that show how strong Kate is?

**Chapter Seventy:**

What does Kate’s dad’s reaction to her telling him the truth show about how?

Kate’s dad says that she’s going to take care of everything. Do you believe that’s true? Why or why not?

**Chapter Seventy-One:**

Why do you think Kate wants Brett to come home for Christmas?

Brett says their dad looks at him as if, “I’ve betrayed him in the worst way possible.” Kate considers telling Brett that she knows what he is talking about? How? In what ways do they both believe their dad thinks they’ve betrayed him?

Do you think Brett will come home for Christmas? Why or why not?

**Chapter Seventy-Two:**

What does Kate’s gift from her dad reveal about him?

**Chapter Seventy-Three:**

Kate thinks, “…I knew now there was a fine line between saying you were going to do something and actually doing it.” Do you believe this is true? Why or why not? Where do we see examples of this throughout the novel?

When Kate receives the last of her messages where her classmates are laughing, she says, I didn’t need words. I understood what they were trying to say.” What do you think they were trying to say?

**January 2 Blog Post:**

Kate compares herself to a fish in this blog post. Explain how this metaphor works for her.

**Chapter Seventy-Four:**

Kate says, “I couldn’t decide what made me sicker: what Luke had tried to do to me or what Dad has chosen to do about it.” What one makes you sicker? Explain why.

**Chapter Seventy-Five:**

Jenny tells Kate that she, “…can’t be on both sides.” Why? What does she mean by this?

Why do you think Jenna chose to tell Kate what she heard about Luke?

**Chapter Seventy-Six:**

Examine who Kate was in the days after the attempted assault to who she is in this chapter. How has she changed? What different things helped her to change?

**January 7 Blog Post:**

Explain how the canary that Kate describes is a metaphor for her.

**Chapter Seventy-Seven:**

What do you think Kate is going to do about Luke? Make a prediction about what you think will happen next.

**Chapter Seventy-Eight:**

Why do you think Luke confronted Kate? What do you think his intentions were?

At the end of the chapter, Kate says, “I ran and ran and didn’t feel like I’d ever be able to get far enough away from Luke.” Do you think this is true? Can she ever get away from Luke? Why or why not.

**Chapter Seventy-Nine:**

Why do you think Kate went to the competition gym? What is the significance of her going there?

What is the irony in Kate dropping a copy of *The Great Gatsby?*

Examine Jenna’s behavior in this chapter. How is it different from the way she acted in the bathroom? Why is she acting this way?

**Chapter Eighty:**

When Brett is on the diving board and Kate tells him he doesn’t need to jump, Brett says, “No, he won’t…I have to jump.” Why do you think Brett feels like he has to jump? Do you think he really does have to jump?

Why does Kate’s dad pressure Brett to jump even though he knows that Brett is scared to?

What does Kate’s dad pressuring Brett to jump show about him and the type of person he is?

Explain how Kate’s flashback to the day at the pool with her dad and Brett relate to the current situation in the novel.

What do you think made Kate decide to go public with her blog?

Predict what you think will happen next now that Kate went public with her blog.

**Chapter Eight-One:**

When talking about Kate’s blog and her dad reading it, Julia asks, “How do you think he’s going to react?” How do you think he will react? Why?

**Chapter Eighty-Two:**

Kate feels like she can heal now. Explain why.

Kate says that she’s spoken all the words she needed to speak, except the ones for her dad. What do you think she plans to say to him?

**Chapter Eighty-Three:**

What is the irony in Kate’s dad telling her that she needed to be quiet for the night.

**Chapter Eighty-Four:**

How do Kate’s feelings changing once she reads her blog comments? What makes her feelings change?

Why do you think people commented on Kate’s blog about the negative things the basketball players have done?

**January 15 Blog Post:**

Kate writes, “Basketball has winners and losers, but there is always a new start with each game. You’re always able to begin again.” How is Kate able to begin again?

**Chapter Eighty-Five:**

When Kate knocks to go into her dad’s office, he invites her in with “A hint of surprise in his voice.” Why do you think he’s surprised?

Do you think it’s fair of Beacon to suspend Kate? Why or why not?

Do you think Kate’s father’s apology is sincere? Why or why not?

What do you think Kate means when she says, “Sometimes it’s hard to see who the enemy really is?”

**Chapter Eighty-Six:**

How do you think Kate feels toward her dad right now? Has she forgiven him? Why or why not?

**Chapter Eighty-Seven:**

Do you believe Jack is sorry? Why or why not?

What do you think Jack means when he says, “The team is everything I know?”

Do you think Jack could have chosen anything other than the team? Why or why not?

Do you believe Jack when he tells Kate, “I care about you, Kate. I always have.”

**Chapter Eighty-Eight:**

Brett talks about Julia and says, “I think that’s what’s she great about her. She doesn’t hold things against people.” Talk about specific characters in the novel that do hold things against people.

What does Kate mean when she is talking to Brett and thinks, “I wanted to tell him I knew what he meant, what it was like to want to be somewhere where you felt important. I wanted to say I understood.” Explain how Kate understands.

Kate says, “I didn’t want the Army to be his important thing.” Why doesn’t she want the Army to be Brett’s important thing?

Why do you think joining the Army is so important to Brett?

How has Kate’s relationship with her brother changed from the start of the novel?

**Chapter Eight-Nine:**

Why do you think Kate decides to go back to school?

Are you optimistic about the novel’s ending? Why or why not.

**January 21 Blog Post:**

Kate lists different types of people. Relate each of these people to actual characters in the novel and discuss his/her connection.