

Discussion Questions

Mother Daughter Traitor Spy, by Susan Elia MacNeal

1. Veronica and Vi were very committed to their work as spies and wanted to protect Democracy, taking many risks. Why do you think they became spies?
2. Why do you think they were able to infiltrate the nazi community? Were you surprised at how quickly they gained the group's trust?
3. Did the dynamics between Veronica and Vi work? Surprise you? How did being mother and daughter benefit or hinder them?
4. How did becoming spies change Veronica and Vi? Who was the stronger of the two?
5. There was a little romance between Veronica and Jonah; did this add to the story?
6. Did either of the main characters make any decisions or do anything that you didn't agree with?
7. What would you do in a similar situation?
8. This story seems to parallel so much in our news and politics today. These Nazi groups were going to overturn the election results if Roosevelt won, and they were also planning attacks on various institutions. Discuss the similarities to today's white nationalism.
9. Why weren't the Nazis considered a serious threat when Veronica and Vi reached out to the FBI and local authorities?
10. As you read the book, did you agree or disagree with the United States stand on getting involved in the war? Did your sentiments change?
11. Did reading this book change the way you think of Democracy? The future of Democracy? The fragility of Democracy?
12. Do you think the author was trying to show how easily subversive ideas can take hold?
13. Before reading this book, were you aware of the depth of the Nazi movement in this country before entering WWII? Did you realize how organized they were? Did you know there was a bunker built for Hitler in LA?
14. Which character did you like the most? Least?
15. How did you like the author's writing style? Did she do justice to this topic? Would you change anything about the book?
16. In what ways does this story differ from other stories of war? Did the story inspire you?

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