

I SURVIVED

BOOK CLUB

Name: _____

I Survived The Battle of D-Day, 1944



CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS AND CARRIER-PIGEON MESSAGE ASSIGNMENT

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS:

1. Why aren't there flowers in the park or ducks in the pond anymore in Le Roc?

2. What happened to Paul's father?

3. Who were the Allies?



4. Why isn't it safe for Paul to help Victor?

5. Who is Ellie, and what is she supposed to do?

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS AND CARRIER-PIGEON MESSAGE ASSIGNMENT *(CONTINUED)*

6. Who is one of the most prized spies of the Le Roc resistance, and why?

7. What is important about the poem that is read on the BBC? Why are the resistance members listening to it so closely?

8. What does Victor manage to take from the barn? Why is it important?

9. Why did the Allied soldiers have to wade through the ocean to get to the beach?



10. Why were carrier pigeons important in WWII?

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS AND CARRIER-PIGEON MESSAGE ASSIGNMENT *(CONTINUED)*

CARRIER-PIGEON MESSAGE ASSIGNMENT: Write a message using the information below. Share your letter with your classmates or *I Survived* book-club friends.

- Imagine that you are Paul, and you are writing a message for Ellie to carry to your father in a prison camp in Germany. Your message has to fit on a small piece of paper—because that’s all Ellie can carry—and can only be two-sentences long. (Think of it as 1944’s version of a Tweet!) First, make a list of all the things you want to tell your father (about Victor, about D-Day, about the resistance...) and then choose the most important thing. Craft two information-packed sentences. What do you decide to tell your father? What do you leave out, and why?

ANSWERS

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS:

1. The Nazis have chopped down the trees in the park and sent the wood to Germany. The people of Le Roc ate the ducks in the pond out of desperation because food is so hard to find. (p. 10)
2. Paul's father joined the French army after Germany invaded France. Within six weeks, he was taken prisoner and put in a Nazi prison camp in Germany. (pp. 17–18)
3. The Allies were a group of countries—the United States, Great Britain, Canada, Russia, and others—that banded together to fight against Germany in the war. (pp. 21–22)
4. It isn't safe for Paul to help Victor because the Nazis killed people who were caught helping Allied soldiers. (p. 24)
5. Ellie is a carrier pigeon who has been sent on a mission with Sergeant Victor Lopez. She is supposed to fly back to England and deliver news about Victor. (pp. 28–29)
6. Marie, who works in the bakery, is one of the most prized spies. In the shop, she learns important secrets as she listens to the Nazis talking while they eat. (p. 49)
7. The poem read on the BBC is a message to resistance groups all over France that the invasion is about to start, and it is now time to spring into action. (p. 61)
8. Victor takes a notebook from a desk in the barn that lists all the Nazis' weapons in Le Roc, and where they are. This is important because it allows the resistance to locate the Nebelwerfers so they can destroy them. (pp. 65–66)
9. The boats couldn't make it all the way to land because the Germans had lined the beach with giant metal and wooden stakes. Also, there were mines buried under the sand. (p. 92)
10. Carrier pigeons were important in WWII because the Allies used them to carry messages. They were far more reliable than a radio or telephone. (See Lauren's letter at the end of the book.)

CARRIER-PIGEON MESSAGE ASSIGNMENT:

Answers will vary.