

## Discussion Questions for The Escape Game

1. Beryl Clarke had plans to graduate from college and have a career, but the war and the death of her father made her plans grind to a halt. Have you ever had your plans changed due to circumstances over which you had no control?
2. When Beryl's father is killed, her mother goes into a deep depression and despite her prayers, Beryl feels powerless to get her mum out of it. What did she do that helped her mother? Do you think it was an accident she found the kitten? Have you ever known of having an animal helping someone?
3. Beryl wants to help the war effort but can't leave her mother to join any of the women's auxiliary reserves. How did she help make a difference anyway? Have you ever wanted to do something important but feel stuck?
4. People in England adjusted to the attacks by the Nazis and went on about their lives. What would you do if your city was bombed? What do you think held the people together?
5. Kenneth has always been a daredevil, but his little brother idolized him, even though Kenneth didn't feel he was worthy of the adoration. The memory of his brother saddened him, but it also motivated him. How so?
6. Beryl's brother James is a Christian whose faith is evident to Kenneth. How did James' character influence Kenneth?
7. What did you think about Mrs. Dowd? About Beryl's concern about her? Have you ever known someone like Mrs. Dowd?
8. Early in the war, the German government treated POWs, especially the Allied airmen, better than most prisoners were treated, especially better than prisoners from countries that Germany had defeated, and in concentration camps. This more favorable treatment was due to the Germans mostly abiding by the rules of the Geneva Convention after WWI about the treatment of prisoners. Reichsmarschal Hermann Goering, the head of all military officers in Hitler's regime, had a soft spot for airmen, having been a former World War I fighter pilot. Did this surprise you?
9. Kenneth kept trying to escape. His leaders had told their men that they should try to escape. Did that surprise you? Why should they keep trying to escape, knowing the odds were that they would be recaptured? What about the men who didn't try?
10. Do you think Kenneth should have left James behind? Was this a selfish act.? How did that experience change Kenneth's faith?
11. Who was your favorite character? Why?
12. Who do you think was/were the heroes in the story?