

TO THINK ABOUT AND TALK ABOUT  
FROM *THE DISAPPEARING SEAT*

1. Elita Brown feels like she's having the worst December ever because Joy Keller's getting all the attention. Have you ever had a situation where someone else stole all the attention? How did you handle it?
2. Who do you think would win in a fight, the Great Horned Owl or the red fox? Why?
3. If Mrs. Crisp was your teacher and assigned a demonstration speech, what would you demonstrate?
4. Elita's stomach hurts when she's stressed out. What happens to you when you feel stress? Where do you feel it in your body?
5. Elita feels self-conscious and lonely at the Winter Dance. Have you felt this way? Why do you think some people are confident in a crowd and others are not? What gives you confidence?



6. Do you agree with Mrs. Burgley's advice to Elita about feeling jealous of Joy? What would you have added to her advice to help Elita with her jealousy?
7. Describe "savoring" in your own words. What is something you recently savored?
8. Have you ever had a weekend when everyone seemed to have fun plans except you? How did you feel, and what did you do?
9. Do you agree with what Mrs. Brown tells her second graders, that "the best thing to be when you grow up is a good friend"?
10. Elita receives a failing grade on her speech. Have you ever received a low grade? How did you recover?
11. What did you think of Allie's words to comfort Elita after she fails her speech assignment? What else would you have said to Elita?
12. What did you think about Mrs. Burgley's Three Words to say when you're jealous?
13. Would you be jealous of Margo's house?
14. Which character in the book do you want to be most like?
15. Do you think Elita does a good job explaining how to know Jesus to Joy? What else would you add to explain how someone becomes a Christian?

16. Can you imagine inviting a few friends to a new youth group? Who would you invite?
17. What do you think about all the animals and natural settings in the book? Do you like thinking of what they are symbolizing? What do you think each of these symbolize: An owl, a hibernating bear, imping a feather, a snowflake, and the vernal pond?
18. What do you predict will happen to each character in their future?
19. What do you think Stephen bought Elita for Christmas?
20. Do you know any older person in your life who could be like Mrs. Burgley?

