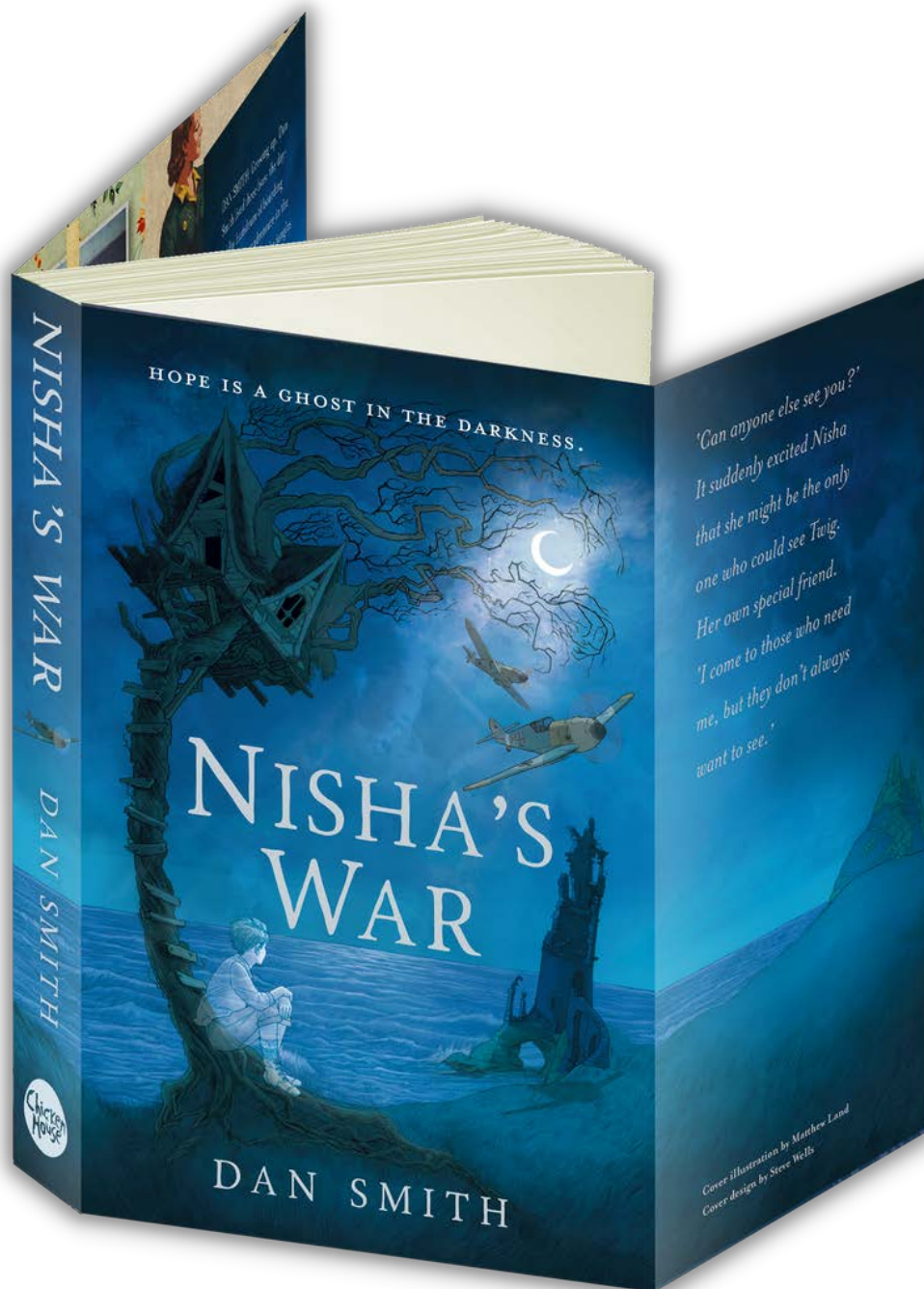


Reading Group Questions

from

DAN SMITH



 @dansmithauthor

- 1.** How does Nisha feel when she arrives at Barrow Island? How would you feel if you were in her shoes?
- 2.** Why do you think Nisha's grandmother behaves the way she does? Do you think her behaviour is understandable, or not?
- 3.** Nisha remembers that her friends in Malaya believed in ghosts. They even said that ghosts lived in the banyan tree by the veranda. Do you believe in ghosts? Do you think ghosts are good or bad – or both?
- 4.** Why do you think Nisha's journal is called 'Nisha Barrow's Truth'?
- 5.** Why do you think Nisha's grandmother keeps the hidden room as it is? Why does she put fresh flowers there?
- 6.** How do you think Nisha feels when she first meets Joy? What is Joy's effect on Barrow House?
- 7.** Why does Nisha decide to be kind to her grandmother even though her grandmother is so unwelcoming? Do you think Nisha was right to do that?
- 8.** Why do the women in the village gossip about Nisha? How do you think it makes Nisha feel?
- 9.** In Nisha's final journal entry, she mentions the colours on Barrow Island. She also mentions that the buildings in the village aren't made of grey stone like she first thought. What does this tell us about Nisha and how she has changed?
- 10.** Do you think the story has an overall message? What do you think it is – what do you think Dan Smith wants the reader to take away from the story?