



Book Club Set

# The Girl Behind The Gates

By Brenda Davis

## About the Author

Dr Brenda Davies is Consultant Psychiatrist. She holds regular workshops around the world and includes many celebrities among her clients. Having been born and raised in County Durham, England, Brenda Davies now lives very happily in Wales. She spent many years living and working abroad, in Zambia, the USA, Germany and Rome. The Girl Behind the Gates is her first novel.



Retrieved from:

<https://pickagoodbook.com/book-review-the-girl-behind-the-gates-by-brenda-davies/?cn-reloaded=1>

## About the Book

1939. Seventeen-year-old Nora Jennings has spent her life secure in the certainty of a bright, happy future – until one night of passion has more catastrophic consequences than she ever could have anticipated. Labelled a moral defective and sectioned under the Mental Deficiency Act, she is forced to endure years of unspeakable cruelty at the hands of those who are supposed to care for her.



1981. When psychiatrist Janet Humphreys comes across Nora, heavily institutionalized and still living in the hospital more than forty years after her incarceration, she knows that she must be the one to help Nora rediscover what it is to live. But as she works to help Nora overcome her past, Janet realizes she must finally face her own.

Based on a true story, *The Girl Behind the Gates* is the raw, heart-breaking yet ultimately uplifting tale of a young woman cut down in her prime, and of the woman who finally brings her back to life, perfect for fans of *The Girl in the Letter* and *Philomena*.

Retrieved from:

<https://bookshineandreadbows.wordpress.com/2020/08/22/the-girl-behind-the-gates-brinda-davies/>

## Discussion Questions



1. How did you experience the book? Were you engaged immediately, or did it take you a while to “get into it”? How did you feel reading it - amused, sad, disturbed, confused, bored...?
2. Describe the main characters - personality traits, motivations, and inner qualities
  - Are their actions justified?
  - Describe the dynamics between characters (in a marriage, family, or friendship).
  - How has the past shaped their lives?
  - Do they remind you of people you know?
3. What is the significance of the title? Did you find it meaningful, why or why not?
4. Were there any quotes (or passages) that stood out to you? Why?
5. How did the book make you feel? What emotions did it evoke?
6. Did this book remind you of any other books that you've read? Describe the connection.
7. Did your opinion of this book change as you read it? How?

**Share your thoughts with other readers!**



DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

BOOK CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

BOOK TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

As a group we rated this book:

1	2	3	4	5
Ugh!		It was OK...		Loved it!

Would we recommend this book to other book clubs?

Yes          No          Undecided

Why/why not?

Our discussion: