

Wake Study Guide

Wake by Lisa McMann

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Plot Summary

Wake is a novel by author Lisa McMann. In this novel, Janie Hannagan, the only child of an alcoholic mother, is the main character of the story. Janie takes readers into the lives of her family and the other people living in the town where she lives because Janie has the ability to get into the dreams of the people that fall asleep in her presence.

As the story unfolds, the readers learn about the many secret fears and desires that the people in Janie's life have through her ability to see into their dreams. Janie realizes she has this ability when she is eight years old. Janie continues to get pulled into people's dreams from this point on. When Janie is a senior in high school, she learns how to control her transition in and out of the dream and how to help the people maneuver the situations they are in during their dreams.

When Janie starts to get into the dreams of the school outcast, Cabel, she sees him in his dreams that transforms into a monster with knives for fingers. Cabel is always killing a middle-aged man in his dreams. As Janie and Cabel get to know each other better, they become friends, and eventually fall in love. Janie learns that the man in Cabel's dream is Cabel's abusive father that passed away a few years earlier. Janie also learns that Cabel is an undercover informant for the local police. Cabel and Janie work together to bust one of the biggest drug dealers in their town.



Six Minutes and Where it Begins

Six Minutes and Where it Begins Summary

Janie Hannagan appears to have the ability to be pulled into other people's dreams. In this particular dream, she is on the football field with one of the star players, Luke Drake. Luke is dreaming about the big upcoming football game. In his dream, he is standing naked on the field. He looks over to Janie, standing on the sidelines, pleading for help. When Janie snaps out of the dream, she is back in the high school library with Jake and some other football players. Jake is just waking up. Underneath her textbook, Janie finds a mini-Snickers. She looks for the person who left in the rows of books, but nobody is there.

It all began when Janie was eight years old. She is traveling on a train from Michigan to Chicago with her mother. They are going to visit Janie's grandmother. Janie sees a businessman in her dream. He is standing in front of a room of people giving a presentation in his underwear. All of his colleagues are laughing at him. He uses his briefcase to try to cover his private parts and then runs out of the room while everyone is laughing. Janie comes out of the cloudy dream. When they are exiting the train, Janie sees the businessman she saw in her dream.

In sixth grade, one of the girls trips Janie, so she falls and scrapes her well-worn pants and palms when Janie is getting on the bus. When Janie gets home, her mother is on the couch drinking again. Janie gets pulled into a dream where Janie's mother is flying in a tunnel with a man that looks like Jesus with blonde hair. When Janie comes out of the dream, her mother shoves Janie off of her and gets up and goes to her room.

In eighth grade, a U-Haul truck pulls into the driveway of the house next to Janie's she sees a very pretty about her age. Janie thinks that maybe they'll call that girl white trash too, so Janie isn't the only one. When Janie goes outside, the girl introduces herself as Carrie Brandt.

A few months later, Carrie has Janie and Melinda Jeffers, the girl that tripped Janie in sixth grade and torments her non-stop, over for a sleepover. When Melinda arrives, she tries to whisper something to Carrie, but Carrie doesn't pay attention to her and says they should do Janie's hair. Then, the girls play truth or dare. Janie always picks dares because she doesn't want anyone to learn her secret. When the girls fall asleep, Melinda is in the middle with her back to Janie and facing Carrie.

Janie is pulled into Melinda's dream. They are in civics class at school. Melinda is staring longingly at someone in the class, but Janie cannot see who it is. Melinda gets up, approaches the person, kisses the person and then takes them by the hand and walks into the closet. Janie wakes and is back in Carrie's room.



Then, Janie gets pulled into Carrie's dream. Carrie is in a forest by a river. She's calling the name Carson out as if she is searching for someone. The boy appears in the river and he's struggling and drowning. Carrie pleads with Janie to help him but when Janie tries she just lands right back where she started. A shark appears behind the boy, opens its mouth and eats him. Both girls wake up screaming.

This time when she falls back to sleep, Janie gets pulled into Melinda's dream. Melinda is in her room doodling hearts when there is a knock at the window. Melinda asks Janie to help her open the window. When they open the window, Carrie crawls in, naked from the waist up and with huge boobs. Melinda and Carrie embrace and then the girls are back in civics class at school.

When Janie is 16, she is working any hours she can pick up at a nursing home. She uses the money to buy clothes and most of the food. The welfare check her mother gets covers the rent and her mother's booze. Janie is also saving money to go to college. She likes working at the nursing home because old people don't sleep soundly. Carrie and Janie are still friends. Carrie and Melinda are still friends. Janie tolerates Melinda, but Melinda still can't stand Janie. Janie thinks it's because she knows the truth about Melinda.

Janie is exhausted from working 11 nights in a row. Seven of those nights, she gets pulled into one of the resident's World War II dream. Carrie comes over and it looks like she's been crying. She asks Janie if she can crash there. Janie says she can sleep on the couch and asks what's wrong. Carrie says Stu at the body shop asked her out and her dad's been yelling and saying she can't go.

The girls drink a glass of Janie's mom's cheap wine. Janie falls asleep on the couch and starts getting pulled into Carrie's dream. Janie tries to get up and into her room to break the connection. It's the same dream—the one by the riverbank. Janie makes it to her, breaks the connection and falls asleep in her bed.

In the morning, Janie wakes to Carrie cleaning the dishes and a cooked breakfast. Janie asks if Carrie had sweet dreams. When Carrie says not really, Janie asks her if she wants to talk about, but Carrie says no.

Six Minutes and Where it Begins Analysis

When Janie is in high school, she is in the library with a couple of the football players. One of the players falls asleep and Janie finds herself in his dream about playing in the big upcoming game. The game, specifically his performance in it, seems to be something the player fears, which is why he is asking Janie for her help in the dream. Janie seems to pick up on people's dreams when they are in the same room or near her.

Janie realizes her ability to see into people's dreams when she is six years old. She has been living with the ability ever since. It is a secret though that nobody knows she is able to do.



Melinda Jeffers is a girl at school that has been picking on Janie since they were in sixth grade. Melinda is rich and popular. Janie is poor and not so popular. Janie thinks Melinda doesn't like her because they come from different lives. Janie sees through Melinda's dreams that Melinda is a lesbian and has feelings for Carrie. Janie believes the real reason Melinda doesn't like Janie is that Melinda suspects that Janie knows she is a lesbian.

Carrie's dream indicates that she had a brother in the past. He must have died from some type of water accident because the dream always entails Carson, the name Carrie is calling out in the dream, drowning in a river. Later, when Janie is trying to get away from being pulled into Carrie's dream again, she leaves the living room and goes to her bedroom in order to break the connection. This indicates that Janie has to be in the same room or within a certain vicinity of the person having the dream for the connection to form.



And Picks Up Speed and In Earnest

And Picks Up Speed and In Earnest Summary

Carrie and Janie are juniors. They are waiting for the bus on the first day of school, when they notice a loner, stoner boy they know, Cabel. Carrie teases Janie that it's her boyfriend. Janie says he has welfare parents like her. Carrie admits to only hanging out with Melinda because she is rich. Nobody dreams on that first day of school, so Janie comes home relieved.

Carrie and Stu, the older guy Carrie's father was yelling about her dating, knock on Janie's window. They are dressed for the homecoming dance. Carrie holds up a silver dress she borrowed from Melinda and tells Janie to put it on so she can go. Janie goes to the dance, dances with one boy that is shorter than her, puts his head on her chest and grabs her butt before she lies and tells Carrie she's got a ride home.

While Janie is walking home with her shoes off, she is suddenly surrounded by boys on skateboards. It's Cabel and a few of his friends. Cabel asks if Janie is OK and offers her a ride home on his skateboard so she doesn't cut her bare feet. Janie gets on the skateboard and he pushes her home. When they get to Janie's house, she tanks Cabel and tells him it was sweet of him to do. They don't acknowledge the night for a long time.

When Janie is seventeen, she notices that a boy is about to fall asleep near the end of a class. She quickly gathers her books and tells the teacher she feels sick to get out of the room before the boy pulls Janie into his dream. Janie hides in one of the bathroom stalls and has a flashback to 1998. She remembers it is her tenth birthday and she is in class. One of her classmates falls asleep and dreams about falling off a cliff. She screams for Janie to help in the dream and both girls wake startled in the class the same time—making all of the other kids in the class laugh at them.

Janie leaves the bathroom when the bell rings to head to her next class. For the next week, Melinda Jeffers and her friends making puking noises and gestures every time they pass Janie in the hall.

Janie is working hard at the nursing home. Mr. Reed, the patient with the World War II dreams, is dying. Janie tries to stay away from his room so she doesn't get pulled into his dreams. When she goes near the room, she gets pulled in. Mr. Reed tries to get Janie to hide with him from the enemy, but Janie knows what will happen if she follows him. Mr. Reed pleads with Janie to help him and Janie recognizes the betrayal in his eyes when she doesn't. In the dream, someone lifts the gun and shoots Mr. Reed. When Janie wakes, two aides are standing over her saying she was having a seizure or something, and then Janie hears the machines beep, indicating Mr. Reed died.



Janie's mother takes her to the doctor. The doctor insists that Janie needs a CAT scan, but her mother just shrugs it off. Janie pays the \$120 doctor bill out of her college money. She just imagines how much a CAT scan would be and refuses to waste any more money for someone to tell her what she already knows—that she's crazy. Even though the doctor tells Janie not to drive, she goes to Stu's body shop with Carrie and pays cash for a car that Stu is selling.

After the "seizure," the nursing home director forces Janie to take a week off work. Janie only agrees after promising to give her shifts on July 4th and Labor Day, days when Janie gets double pay. On July 4th, Janie wheels three of the patients out to the parking lot to see the fireworks from a nearby park. One of the patients is blind, so Janie describes the fireworks to her. Then, Janie runs in, gets a Koosh Ball, and has the patient feel it—telling her that the last firework display looked just like that.

That night, as Janie is driving home, she approaches a stop sign. She slips into her dream state, where she sees a monster-man with knives as hands. He appears as if he wrecks Janie's car and kills another man in the dream. When Janie wakes, however, it is just the hood that opened on her car, but there isn't any damage to the car, and the car isn't stuck, as it was in the dream. After this, Janie avoids the house on Waverly Street near the stop sign.

It is the summer before their senior year of school. Carrie brings the mail into Janie's house so they can compare schedules. They have first and fourth period together, as well as lunch. Carrie says she's going to call Melinda to see about her schedule. When Janie says Carrie can call from her house, Carrie rebuts the idea, and Janie realizes it's because Melinda will see Carrie is calling from Janie's house because of Caller ID.

On the first day of school, the girls drive separate because Janie has to work at 3. She stops behind her school bus as the kids board it. As it pulls away, she sees Cabel missed the bus so she offers him a ride. She notices right away that his looks changed over the summer. Janie finds out that they have very similar schedules. She also realizes this is the longest conversation she's had with Cabel in the three years she has known him.

In study hall, Carrie and Janie meet up. Janie tries to sit as far from the other students as possible. Carrie says she only has one class with Melinda and asks Janie if she's seen the new boy yet. When Carrie points the new guy out to Janie, Janie realizes everyone thinks Cabel is new because he looks so different than he did the previous year.

To tease Carrie, she gets up and goes over to the "new guy." As they are talking, Janie tells him that half the girls in school think he's new because his looks have changed so drastically. When Janie calls him Cabel, he asks Janie who she thinks he is, making Janie think she is in someone's strange dream instead of awake. When Janie looks scared, Cabel says he's just joking with her, but she makes an excuse to get over to where Carrie is sitting.



Janie finishes her work early so she goes to the blind patient's room, Miss Stubin, to read her a couple chapters of *Jane Eyre*. Janie doesn't notice Miss Stubin fall asleep. Miss Stubin's dream is in black and white, in a small town. A young woman is walking with a soldier. The soldier pulls the woman to him behind a building, kisses her passionately and tries to get her to sleep with him before he goes off to war. Janie manages to pull herself out of the dream for once, leaving Miss Stubin and her soldier alone in their intimate moment.

At school the next day, in study hall, Carrie asks Janie why she didn't tell her the "new guy" is Cabel. Janie says it's because she's an asshole—jokingly. After Carrie leaves to go work on the yearbook staff, Janie is pulled into a dream, where she is in total darkness and nobody is there until she sees the man with knife hands coming through some bushes on the perimeter. Janie watches as the monster-man morphs into a human—Cabel Strumheller. A second Janie steps from her body to approach Cabel. They kiss. The bell rings and Janie wakes up, but she needs a moment to compose herself. Cabel asks her she's ready—thinking she didn't hear the bell. As they walk, he asks if she had a bad dream. She asks if he did. He looks at her with a puzzled expression.

In the next class, Cabel throws a paper ball on Janie's desk that reads, "Maybe." After school, Cabel is leaning against her car. She says she'll give him a ride because he's probably missed the bus home by now. Cabel just walks away.

Later, Janie reads and burns a note that says he keeps to himself because of what he knows about her. At school, Janie is just a few seats from Cabel; he has his back to her. She has an urge to reach out and touch his hair. She's confused by the feelings she has for him, but is simultaneously flattered that he dreams about kissing her. Janie now knows where Cabel lives—in that house on Waverly Road.

The teacher is passing out room assignments to their trip to Stratford, Canada. Janie's paper falls under Cabel's shoe and he kicks it to her. She reads it and finds out she is rooming with Melinda, one of Melinda's friends and the captain of the girls' soccer team. Janie thinks she'll have to get a lot of rest on the bus and wonders if Melinda still dreams about Carrie having big boobs.

And Picks Up Speed and In Earnest Analysis

Carrie is a good friend to Janie. Carrie is trying to give Janie as normal a life as she can have under her circumstances. This includes getting Janie a dress to wear to homecoming and convincing her to go. Cabel is reaching out to Janie. Janie mentioning that they don't acknowledge what Cabel did for on homecoming night for a while foreshadows that something happens in the future between them, where they discuss homecoming night, or that they start a friendship or relationship with each other.

It seems as if the people in Janie's dreams might know that she is in their dreams even after they wake up. This would explain why Melinda doesn't like Janie—because Janie



knows the truth. Melinda knows that Janie was in her dreams about making out with Carrie, which means that Janie knows Melinda is in the closet about her homosexuality.

Janie infers, for the first time, someone in her dream takes his own life instead of allowing "the enemy" to take their life. In this case, Mr. Reed shoots himself in his dream rather than die by enemy gunfire.

Janie doesn't know who the dreamer is that almost causes her to crash her car. It foreshadows her finding out that the dreamer is Cabel.

Janie thinks she'll have to get a lot of sleep on the bus on the way to Canada because she'll be busy getting into the dreams of her three roommates all night.



Oh, Canada and Truth or Dare

Oh, Canada and Truth or Dare Summary

Carrie and Janie climb sleepily into Carrie's car on the morning of the school trip. They pass Cabel, who is walking toward school, and offer him a ride but he declines. The non-fight Cabel and Janie had in the parking lot that day is the first of many non-fights because they don't speak to one another anymore. Janie keeps getting into Cabel's dream in study hall, where he is using his knife-fingers to behead a middle-aged man. Janie wonders why the people in the dreams are always asking for her help.

Janie is pulled into a boy Kyle's dream, where he falls from the sky into a lake and drowns. When Janie wakes, Kyle is asking her what's wrong with her. Caleb slips his arm around Janie saying it looked like she was having a seizure—and asks if he should get a teacher or stop the bus. She tells him no matter what happens not to do that and she slips into someone else's dream. Dreams are coming at Janie from left and right. When she wakes, the bus is in the McDonald's parking lot and Cabel's face is white as a ghost.

Janie sends Cabel to get breakfast for them while she stays on the empty bus. He brings back food and drinks and they eat, drink and talk until the kids start piling back on. Janie tells him not to worry and that she'll explain to him what's happening when she can.

Cabel asks Janie if she can go back to sleep. She says if nobody else does. He asks her what she means as she drifts off to sleep. He laces his fingers in her fingers and Cabel drifts off to sleep too. Janie sees Cabel near the barn in his dream. The middle-aged man heads toward Cabel and punches him in the face. He squeezes lighter fluid on Cabel and sets him on fire. From the fire, Cabel transforms into the monster with knives for fingers. Cabel the second stands behind the barn watching it all unfold. When Janie wakes up, Cabel asks what is wrong with her, doesn't speak to her anymore and walks away when they arrive in Stratford.

Later, the kids meet back at the bus in the parking lot of the hotel. They go to the Camelot play, but Cabel doesn't show up. Janie sleeps through most of the play and on the bus in the Pizza Hut parking lot after the play. Back in the hotel room, Janie jumps from dream to dream of each of her roommates. Melinda dreams of three-way sex with Shay, who is sleeping next to her, and Carrie. Shay dreams a lot about Cabel. Janie hates Shay by the next morning.

When her roommates go down to breakfast, Janie stays behind, takes a shower and falls back to sleep on the bed. She has her own dream for the second time in her life. She is drowning in a lake, surrounded by floating dead bodies. Cabel is on the shore with a rope and she's yelling to him to save her but he can't see her. She wakes up



screaming when the alarm goes off and then Cabel knocks on the hotel room door. They embrace each other and fall on the bed holding each other and sleep.

On the bus ride home, Janie and Cabel sit together. Cabel slips his hand into Janie's hand. Carrie notices and winks at Janie. Shay notices and tries to flirt with Cabel. Melinda is staring at Carrie. Since everyone seems to be awake, Janie slips into a deep sleep. Cabel wakes her when the bus arrives back in the parking lot of the high school. Carrie drives Cabel and Janie home. Cabel goes into the house with Janie and they order a pizza. He starts asking her how she got into his dreams and she wants to know how he got into her dream. Janie explains that she gets pulled into peoples' dreams but she doesn't know how.

Janie proceeds to tell Cabel what she has seen of his dreams. He asks how he can keep her out of his dreams. She says not to fall asleep in the same room, and that the drive-by dream was because his window was open. Cabel tells her that she shakes and her eyes roll back in her head when it happens, which is why he was about to call 911 when he saw it. Janie asks Cabel how he got into the dream and he says he doesn't know—that all of the sudden he was there watching everything unfold. When Cabel leaves, they kiss goodbye and make arrangements to see each other the next night.

The next day Janie goes grocery shopping and cleans the house. Cabel never shows up. She assumes it's because he thinks she's a freak. The next morning when she gets in her car for school, there is an apology note from him on her car windshield. She drives past Cabel on the way to school without stopping. He keeps trying to apologize to her but she won't listen to him throughout the day and that night. Janie thinks that she'll never have a boyfriend, be able to sleep next to someone or get married because of the dream problem. She cries herself to sleep.

Janie stays home from school and work the next day—saying she's sick. Carrie comes over after school and hands her a note from Cabel. Carrie asks if it has anything to do with Cabel getting mixed up with drugs on Sunday night. Carrie says he was dancing with Shay at a party and Shay got really messed up. Carrie also says that she heard Cabel is some kind of go-between for drug dealers.

That night, Janie sneaks over to Cabel's house and sits under his window. Right before dawn, she sneaks back to her house not getting pulled into any of his dreams. The next day she reads the note Carrie dropped off from Cabel, saying that they really need to talk. Janie ignores Cabel all through school the following day. That night at work, Miss Stubin slips into a coma and dies. Janie cries, even though she's never cried over a resident's death before. They send her home from work early and she drives past Cabel's house on her way home. Nothing happens and she goes home and falls into bed.

That Saturday at work, the director calls Janie into her office. She hands her an envelope addressed to Janie that they found in Miss Stubin's belongings. The letter thanks Janie for Miss Stubin's dreams, from one catcher to another. There is also a \$5,000 check for college enclosed. Later that afternoon, Janie is called to the front desk



for a phone call from her mother telling her there is some hippie waiting for Janie on the porch. When Janie gets home, Cabel is gone, but there is a note from her mom saying the hippie had to go home but will come back tomorrow.

Janie calls Carrie to see if any of Carrie's rich friends are having parties tonight. Carrie says she knows Janie is looking for Cabel and comes over. The girls make dinner and get buzzed drinking Janie's mom's alcohol. Janie pretends as if she is over Cabel and thinks he is a fake to get Carrie talking. Carrie says that Shay says she's had sex with Cabel and that Carrie has bought pot from Cabel before. Carrie also tells Janie she thinks Cabel is selling crack now and is in business with Shay's father. After Carrie passes out on the couch, Janie sneaks over the Cabel's house. He pulls up in a car, gets out and goes inside. Janie hears him crack the window and get into bed. He has the same dream about decapitating the middle-aged man for two hours and then a dream about Shay being handcuffed to a bed and him having sex with her. Janie wakes up outside the window the next morning and sneaks home

When she falls asleep next to Carrie, she gets pulled into Carrie's dream in the forest again. Carrie slips out later but Janie remains asleep. Janie sort of hears someone let himself in and her mom going back and forth with a TV dinner and a bottle. Cabel stays for most of the day watching Janie sleep and worrying that she's sleeping too much. When she wakes up, she asks him why he keeps coming around. He says because he cares about her. She accuses Cabel of selling drugs and having sex with Shay. Cabel says she shouldn't believe everything she hears. Janie makes a comment and Cabel realizes Janie was in his dream. He tells her dreams are hopes and fears, not memories. He leaves and he and Janie don't talk after that.

In the library, when one of the girls has a dream, Janie falls out of her chair trembling, nobody notices, but Cabel, who picks Janie up and slides a Snickers under Janie's book. In the next class, Janie writes a note on a sheet of paper, balls it up and throws it at the back of Cabel's head. After school, she finds the classified ads on her windshield with a sleep study highlighted. When Janie gets home, she calls the sleep study number and signs up for Thanksgiving weekend.

The day after Thanksgiving, Janie takes her duffel bag and heads to the sleep study place near her school. She sees her principal in the waiting room and she has an episode where she is pulled into a dream so that everyone is staring at her when she comes out of it. She grabs her duffel and one of the lab-coated women chases her out to the parking lot as she speeds off.

The next day, Janie goes to the public library and starts looking for books on dreams. She's fascinated by the information she finds and with the books she takes home. She talks herself into thinking that she wants to help people but that she has a problem and that she wants to dream about how to fix right before she goes to bed that night. When Janie falls asleep, she has the dream where she is drowning in a lake with a bunch of dead bodies surrounding her, and Cabel, who can't see her with a rope on the shore. When she wakes up, she writes down the dream in her notebook.



She falls asleep again and has the same dream, but this time when she slips under the water, Miss Stubin and another Janie swim up to her and tell her she can control the dream. Eventually, Janie makes it to the shore and walks up to Cabel, who says that he cares about her, and this Janie wants to believe him. The next day, Janie studies the books and her dream all day until she has to go to work.

At work, Janie goes into the room where Miss Stubin was because there is a new patient there. He's asleep and Janie slips into his dream. Miss Stubin appears in the dream and keeps telling the new patient something that Janie can't hear. Each time Miss Stubin coaches him in the dream, the dream starts over but changes slightly.

The first week of December, Cabel pulls up to school driving a new car—a used BMW convertible. When Carrie and Janie are talking about it before class, Cabel walks up behind them and overhears their conversation. In study hall, Cabel falls asleep and talks to Janie in his dream. Janie asks him how he did that and he says it's the only way he could get Janie to talk to him. They plan to do something together after school. When they meet at their cars, Cabel says to go to his house, but Janie starts to ask about Cabel's father. Cabel tells Janie not to worry—that he's dead.

Oh, Canada and Truth or Dare Analysis

The fact that Cabel keeps cutting off the head of a middle-aged man in his dreams indicates that Cabel wants to kill his father. It seems as if Cabel's father was or still is abusive, which is what is causing Cabel to dream about killing his father. Janie and Cabel live parallel lives because if it is Cabel's father in his dream, then both of their parents are alcoholics. Janie hates Shay for dreaming about Cabel because it seems as if Shay likes Cabel, and Janie is having romantic feeling for Cabel herself. Janie realizes that when Cabel didn't show up at her house on Sunday like he was supposed to, he was really at a party dancing with Shay, and possibly mixed up in drugs.

It seems as if Miss Stubin had the same ability to get into people's dreams that Janie has. Miss Stubin also leaves Janie a clue in her note—telling Janie that she has more power than she thinks. After reading the dream books, Janie takes this as a sign that she can control what happens in her dreams so Janie sets out to test this theory. Through the new patient's dream, Miss Stubin is trying to signal to Janie that everyone has the power to control what happens in their dreams.



What Becomes the Longest Day and Busting Out All Over

What Becomes the Longest Day and Busting Out All Over Summary

When Janie goes into Cabel's house, she remembers the kitchen, chairs and ceiling fan from his dreams. He takes her into the living room to show her the dream books he has been studying so he could learn to write his thoughts in his dream to communicate with Janie. He says he wants to talk to her about everything but she accuses him of lying to her from the beginning. She starts to cry and goes to the bathroom. When she comes out, he is ending a conversation on his cell phone. He says he can't tell her everything right now but that he'll answer any questions she has that he can answer. She asks who was on the phone and Cabel says it was Shay.

Janie gets mad and storms out. Cabel comes outside to move his car out of the way so Janie can back out of the driveway, but taps on her window, bawling and telling her how sorry he is. She sits in the driveway for a little over half an hour, thinking that she is in love with Cabel too, so she goes and knocks on the door. Cabel is on the phone again. When Janie asks who he was talking to, he says his boss, he says his boss want to talk to Janie, so Janie agrees to follow Cabel in her own car. They drive into a parking lot that serves several businesses. Cabel unlocks an unmarked door in the back, goes down a flight of stairs and takes her to an office marked, "Captain Fran Komisky."

The Captain tells Janie that Cabel would rather quit his job than lose her so she's going to straighten things out. She tells Janie that Cabel and the principal are the only two people that know they are about to conduct a major drug bust on the Hill, which is where the rich people live in town and that Cabel is not involved with Shay.

The only other thing Janie wants to tell the captain is about a dream one of the cops is having about being tied up in a bank vault. While the captain goes to the officer to check out Janie's story, Janie tries to help the cop in the dream to get free, grab his cell phone and call 911. When the captain returns, she is amazed by Janie's ability and says she's a real. Martha Stubin."

When Cabel and Janie return to his house, he tells her that he lives in the house alone. He thinks his mother lives in Florida. He has a brother and sister-in-law that lived with him but they moved out. He tells her how his dad was a Vietnam Vet and used to be beat them, but that he died a few years ago. When Janie lifts Cabel's shirt, she can feel and see the scars.

In study hall, Janie and Cabel whisper to each other that she has to work tonight but that she'll come to his house after. They go to their usual tables and Cabel creates a dream just for Janie. Later, at the nursing home, the man who now occupies Miss



Stubin's room has a visitor. Janie recognizes that it is his son from the dream. As soon as Mr. McVickers sees his son, he grabs his walker, apologizes to his son and tells him he was wrong.

That night, Janie spends the night with Cabel at his house. When he falls asleep, Janie helps him learn how to change his dream with his father. When they wake up, it's 11:30 on Wednesday. They play truth or dare, but it's all truth. Cabel tells Janie that he sold drugs in ninth and tenth grades, but he got into trouble, which is how he started working for the captain. The captain is after the supplier, which is Shay's father. He also tells her that he has a full-ride scholarship to the University of Michigan, studying criminal justice, so that he can keep his job with the captain.

Over the weekend, life goes back to normal. Because Janie is worried the drug bust will take place over the weekend, Janie asks Carrie if she wants to study for exams. When Carrie shows up at Janie's house, Carrie is drunk. Janie takes the opportunity to ask who Carson is and Carrie tells Janie the story. Carson was Carrie's four-year-old brother, when Carrie was 10. The family was camping and she was helping her parents set up the campsite when Carson wandered off, fell in the lake and drowned. Carrie says they moved next door to Janie about a year after the incident.

The next time Carrie has the dream, Janie walks her through helping Carson in the dream.

On the way home from work, Janie drives by Cabel's house. She sees his car so she stops. Cabel answers the door, giving her signals with his eyes, when Shay comes up behind him. Janie asks for Cabel's notes for an exam and Shay says they're going to a party. When Janie gets home, she finds a note tucked inside the papers Cabel gave her saying that he misses her like crazy.

That night, Carrie calls Janie in the middle of the night to come and bail Carrie and Stu out of jail. When Janie gets there, she sees a bunch of kids from school and realizes it's the bust. The police officer won't let Janie bail Carrie and Stu out because she's not 18 yet. Janie goes to the cell, where she sees Shay, Shay's brother, Shay's father, Carrie, Stu and Cabel. She tells Carrie that she can't bail her out because of her age but that she'll figure it out. Cabel winks at Janie and nods toward Shay's father, who seems to be nodding off.

Before she leaves, Janie gets pulled into Mr. Wilder's dream, Shay's criminal father. Janie falls, cutting open her head in the area above her eye, on a nearby coffee cart. She wakes up on a stretcher but convinces the paramedics that she is refusing treatment. The captain sees Janie and Janie asks for her to help her bail out Stu and Carrie. The captain agrees but reminds Janie that they don't know each other. After Stu and Carrie leave, Cabel and Janie meet the captain downstairs in the hidden offices to give their report to her.

Janie tells the captain what she saw in Mr. Wilder's dream. Janie thinks he has his stash hidden in the life jackets that are on the Wilder's yacht. By 10:30 Cabel and Janie are at



school taking their exam, but 25 minutes into it Janie turns in her exam book. Cabel finds her passed out on the library table and he takes her to the emergency room. They rehydrate Janie in a private room.

What Becomes the Longest Day and Busting Out All Over Analysis

It seems like Cabel might be working as a confidential informant with the police. This might explain why everyone thinks he is dealing drugs, and is in business with Shay's father. When the captian mentions Martha Stubin, she seems to confirm that Miss Stubin had the same abilities as Janie. It seems fate brought Janie into Miss Stubin's life and Miss Stubin into Janie's so Miss Stubin could help Janie with her dream catching abilities.

From what Cabel is telling Janie and the scars he has on his body, what Janie saw in Caleb's dream was real. The part about Caleb killing his father was the hope and fear part. Miss Stubin's message to Carrie in the letter she left after she died is to help Carrie put her ability to good use. In this case, it is to help people get over their fears and the bad things that have happened to them in their lives to change how the story ends, to rewrite their own endings.



Glory and Hope

Glory and Hope Summary

Janie meets with the captain. The captain tells her they got it while slipping an envelope to Janie. The envelope contains a contract, a scholarship offer and a paycheck. A few weeks later, Janie attends her goodbye party at the nursing home. then, she goes home to Cabel's house, crawls into bed, and they off in dreamland together.

Glory and Hope Analysis

The captain is able to help Janie get through college, just as she is helping Cabel. Janie will be able to work for the police department while studying at U of M, just as Cabel plans to do.



Characters

Janie Hannagan

Janie Hannagan is the only child of an alcoholic mother. Janie doesn't know who her father is. Janie has always been picked on by the rich girls at school because she wears second-hand clothes and her family doesn't have much money. From the age of eight, Janie realizes that she has the ability to get into the dreams of people that are sleeping near her.

When Carrie moves in next store, Carrie and Janie become best friends. They remain friends from junior high school through high school, even though Carrie is also friends with some of the most popular girls in school. Because Janie's mother is an alcoholic, Janie often takes on the responsibilities of an adult, even at a young age. As soon as Janie is old enough, she lands a job working at a local nursing home. Janie works as much as she can to have money for food, clothes and to save for her own college education.

While Janie comes from a welfare family, she is working hard in school and at her job to make positive changes to her life. By the end of the novel, Janie finds a way to pay her own way through college and get out of the welfare household that she's living in with her mother.

Carrie Brandt

Carrie Brandt becomes Janie's best friend when Carrie and her family move next store to the Hannagans. Carrie is from a poor family too, but Carrie is so pretty that the rich girls at school accept Carrie as their friend. Carrie is always dreaming about a boy named Cameron that is drowning in a lake in a forest.

In high school, Carrie starts dating a guy that is older than her that works at the local body shop. While Carrie continues to be best friends with Janie, Carrie also continues to be friends with some of the most popular girls in school, such as Shay and Melinda. When hanging around with these girls, Carrie often goes to parties in the rich part of town, where the parties are unsupervised and full of drugs and alcohol.

Carrie's involvement in this lifestyle ends up landing her and her boyfriend in jail from a drug bust at a party. It is because of the relationship that Carrie has with Jane that gets Carrie and her boyfriend out of jail.

Melinda Jeffers

Melinda Jeffers is one of the most popular girls in school. Ever since they were 12, Melinda has been picking on Janie because of her clothes, hair and the way Janie



looks. Melinda continues this behavior throughout high school. Since Melinda is friends with Carrie, however, Carrie tries to keep Melinda from being so cruel to Janie.

From the time they are girls throughout high school, Janie has been pulled into a couple of Melinda's dreams. Melinda dreams of being sexually involved with Carrie and one of the other girls in school. This leads Janie to believe that Melinda is a closet lesbian.

Mrs. Hannagan

Mrs. Hannagan is Janie's mother. Mrs. Hannagan is an alcoholic. She collects a welfare check that she uses to pay for rent and her liquor. Mrs. Hannagan is always passing out on the couch or in her room. She also leaves her empty liquor bottles all over the house, never cleans up and doesn't even go to the store to make sure that there is food in the house for Janie. Mrs. Hannagan seems oblivious to Janie and what is going on in the world. She only cares about drinking.

Mr. Brandt

Mr. Brandt is Carrie's father. Mr. Brandt is angry all of the time. He is always yelling at Carrie or Mrs. Brandt. When Mr. Brandt finds out that Stu asks Carrie out, Mr. Brandt goes on a yelling rampage. Carrie escapes to Janie's house to get away from her father when he is yelling.

Mrs. Stubin

Mrs. Stubin is an old blind woman that lives at the nursing home where Janie works. Janie gets into Mrs. Stubin's dream one night, which shows Mrs. Stubin was in love with a soldier that was due to be shipped off to war when Mrs. Stubin was younger. When Mrs. Stubin dies, she leaves Janie a letter and some money for college. The letter insinuates that Mrs. Stubin is also a "dream catcher" like Janie is. The letter also indicates to Janie that she can learn how to control the dreams, which sends Janie to conduct some research on interpreting and having better control of the dreams.

Shay

Shay is one of the popular girls in girl. She is also friends with Melinda Jeffers. Shay has a crush on Cabel, which Janie sees in Shay's actions, but also sees in one of Shay's dreams. Cabel becomes involved with Shay while he is working undercover because Shay's father is one of the big drug dealers in town.



Cabel

Cabel is a boy that goes to school with Janie and Carrie. One year, Cabel is wearing gross clothes, needs to wash and cut his hair, and barely interacts with anyone. The next year, their senior year, he has transformed his looks so much that most people in school think that he is a cute new guy. Cabel turns out to be an undercover confidential informant for the local police. He is working to help them bust the drug dealers in town. Janie gets caught up in the middle of Cabel's work when the two become friends and then fall in love with each other.

Cabel's home life was abusive. His father was a Vietnam Vet that used to beat his family. Cabel's dad died a few years prior and Cabel lives alone in his house. He intends on attending the University of Michigan while continuing to work for the police in Fieldridge. Cabel also helps Carrie to get a job with the police as well, so that she will have a job and scholarship to pay for her to attend the University of Michigan as well.

Captain

The captain of the local police force is Cabel's boss. She is a woman and helps to smooth things over between Janie and Cabel. The captain also helps Janie to earn money and land a scholarship so that she can attend the University of Michigan. The captain is sort of a mother figure to Cabel, even though she is also his boss.

Stu

Stu is Carrie's boyfriend. He is a few years older than Carrie, so her parents do not approve of the two dating. Stu runs the local body shop in town. He is also the person who sells Janie the car she buys in high school.



Objects/Places

Fieldridge

Fieldridge is the town in Michigan where the novel takes place. It is in northern Michigan and within driving distance across the Canadian border. Fieldridge is where all of the characters live and where they attend the local high school.

Carrie's Room

Carrie's room is where Janie, Melinda and Carrie have sleepovers and hang out. It is in Carrie's room that Janie sees into Carrie and Melinda's dreams for the first time. It is where Janie first learns about who Cameron might be and that Melinda is a lesbian that has a crush on Carrie.

Nursing Home

The local nursing home is where Janie works. It is also where Janie meets Miss Stubin. It seems as if fate might have brought Janie and Miss Stubin to the nursing home, so that Miss Stubin could teach Janie how to control her "dream catcher" abilities.

High School Library

The high school library is where Janie and Cabel have study hall. It is also where a lot of Janie's classmates fall asleep. When they fall asleep in the library, and Janie is near them, she gets pulled into their dreams. It is where Cabel also falls asleep and Carrie realizes what his dream is.

Janie's Car—Ethel

Janie names her car Ethel. Janie buys the car from Carrie's boyfriend Stu. She pays for the car in cash with some of the money she earns from working at the nursing home. While driving in her car, Janie is pulled into the dream of someone on the street when she stops at a stop sign. She later finds out that it is Cabel's dream.

Bus

The bus is how the kids in Janie's class get from school to Canada. It is on the bus that Cabel first realizes that something is wrong with Janie. He suspects it is that she gets into other people's dreams. The bus is where a true bond forms between Cabel and Janie, which forms the basis of their future romantic relationship.



Captain's Office

The captain's office is where Cabel takes Carrie so the captain can tell Janie the truth about Cabel's relationship with Shay. It is while Janie and Cabel are in the captain's office that Janie learns Cabel is a confidential informant and that he is just pretending to be with Shay to try to bust her father, who is a drug dealer.

Dream Books

Janie goes to the library to check out a bunch of different dream books. The dream books help Janie to understand the meaning of the different dreams she has and the dreams she gets pulled into. The books also help to guide her in learning how to control the outcome of her dreams, and help others to control the outcome of their dreams too.

Cabel's House

Cabel's house is the house Janie is driving by when she first gets pulled into her dreams. By the end of the novel, Janie and Cabel are living in his house together. Cabel lives in the house alone, now that his father is dead, his mother lives in Florida and his brother is married and moved away.

Alcohol Bottles

Janie's house is always full of empty alcohol bottles. Mrs. Hannagan drinks all day until she passes out and just leaves the empty bottle everywhere for Janie to clean up. Janie and Carrie also sneak alcohol out of the full bottles of wine and alcohol while Janie's mom is in her room passed out or drinking.



Themes

Relationships

One of the primary themes running through the novel is relationships. The two primary relationship types the novel tackles are friendship and romantic relationships.

Friendship is the first type of relationship that the novel tackles. It seems as if Carrie and Janie become instant friends when they are 12 years old. They have a special bond that nothing seems to be able to break. On the other hand, Carrie is also friends with the girls at school that torment Janie, such as Melinda Jeffers. Janie and Carrie have similar backgrounds and dysfunctional home lives, which is one of the things that makes the girls close.

Romantic relationships are also tackled in the novel. Janie and Cabel start out as friends when they become seniors in high school. As they get to know each other, and get to know each other's secrets, however, their relationship transforms into a romantic relationship. It is the first time that Janie has a boyfriend, so it is also her sexual experience when she starts to have sex with Cabel.

Coming of Age

One of the primary themes that run throughout the novel is growing up and coming of age while dealing with adversity such as having an alcoholic parent. Janie struggles with the fact that her coming of age includes being a dream catcher. Janie deals with the responsibilities in life of having an alcoholic mother, such as taking on the role as the cook for the family, the grocery shopper, and working to pay for the bills that her mother's welfare check doesn't cover.

Janie also faces the rite of passage of having her first boyfriend. Along with having her first boyfriend, Janie experiences her first kiss and sexual experiences. She especially struggles as to how to use her ability to help people, which she learns to better control by the end of the novel.

Surrogate Family

Surrogate family is another central theme throughout the entire novel. This is because the storyline is about the lives of three high school kids that come from dysfunctional families—Janie, Carrie and Cabel. While every family has their trials and tribulations, Janie and her friends find solace in each other's company to get away from the problems in their own families. Janie, Carrie and Cabel's families has its own family dynamics that are the same and that are different from those of other families. In the end though, Carrie, Cabel and Janie are a surrogate family and they will get through it together, one way or the other.



Style

Point of View

The novel is written in the third-person point of view. The narrator of the novel is also the author of the novel. The author is telling the story as it unfolds, but she also switches back to some past events in Janie's life to provide the reader with some perspective.

The point of view of this novel is an intimate point of view that allows a reader to connect closely with the main character, Janie Hannagan. The point of view also allows the author to inject her own opinions into the narration and to expand on the events taking place to Janie, the members of her family and the people of the town without having to move out of character or interrupt the flow of the narration. Hence, the point of view works well with this novel and the author's writing style.

Setting

The novel is set primarily in Fieldridge, Michigan from 1991 to 2005. The setting of this novel is important because it is about the dreams of the people in this particular town that sets the scene for the entire plot of the novel. The main character of the novel is a teenager that is a dream catcher, who works and goes to school to help support her alcoholic mother.

The setting of this novel works well with the plot. At first, the reader is not aware that Janie is a dream catcher, or all of the secrets that exist in the individuals in the town. However, as events unfold, one secret after the next is either explained or inferred.

Language and Meaning

The language of this novel is modern. The language of the novel is not formal and is set in modern times, such as the late '90s and early 2000s. The language is educated, strong and descriptive enough that it creates a flow that leaves the reader impressed with the words as much as the plot when the novel ends.

The language of the novel is appropriate to the plot because it is accurate to the characters in the novel and the education level of the writer. The novel is not in love with its own words, but it is descriptive enough that the reader finds enjoyment in the words as well as the plot. The language is not difficult to understand, however, and everything is clear in its context. Hence, the language of the novel fits well with the plot of the novel.

Structure

The novel consists of different time periods over the course of Janie's life. Each time period covers a date, and in some instances several different time points throughout the day. Each section is anywhere from 12 to 20 pages long. The chapters tell the story both in exposition and dialogue. The author is the narrator of the book, so it seems as if she is injecting her own voice throughout the novel, as if she has become Janie. This allows the author to provide her own opinions of the events surrounding the setting of the novel, as well as the actions taking place within the plot.

The novel contains one main plot and several subplots. The main plot follows the various relationships between the characters in the novel. The subplots involve coming of age and the trials and tribulations of the family.



Quotes

"Help" (Six Minutes, p. 1).

"Carson! Get out of there! Carson" (Where It Begins p. 6).

"He probably has shitty welfare parents, like me" (And Picks Up Speed, p. 12).

"Are you getting a lot of strange looks today, by any chance" (In Earnest, p. 21).

"You shake, you spasm, your eyes roll back in your head" (Oh, Canada, p. 36).

"It's your dream. Concentrate. Change it" (Truth or Dare, p. 51).

"Is there any chance that you'll come for a ride with Me? My boss is interested in talking to you" (What Becomes the Longest Day, p. 61).

"I have a full-ride scholarship" (Busting Out All Over, p. 70).

"Good work, Janie" (Glory and Hope, p. 82).



Topics for Discussion

Who is Janie? Why does she feel like she is an outsider in her own family? What does Janie recall about her childhood? What is Janie's biggest demon that haunts her throughout her life? Why is this important? How does it change her life?

Discuss the relationship between Janie and Cabel. Are they really in love? Is there love, guilt or a sense of obligation in their relationship? How does Janie feel about Cabel? How does Cabel feel about Janie? Why does Janie think Cabel has a crush on Shay? What does she do about it?

What happens to does Janie's father? How does this affect the future of the family? How does each family member react emotionally to his not being around? What does Janie decide about her father? Does Janie ever really determine where her father is?

Who is Cabel? Why does he agree to help Janie in her dream catching? Why does there seem to be a strain in the relationship between Janie and Cabel at times? Why does Cabel hesitate when he finds out that Janie sees into his dreams? How does Cabel feel about his dad? How does Cabel feel about his mom? How does the reader know this?

Who is Carrie Brandt? Why does she continuously try to help Janie throughout the novel? Why do you think Carrie's family keeps her brother's death a secret? What happens when Janie asks Carrie about Cameron? Why does Janie help Carrie change how the dream ends?

Discuss Janie's ability to see into people's dreams. What impact does it have on the characters of the novel? How does it motivate them or hold them back? Why is the her ability an issue?

Discuss Janie working for the police. What do you think her job is going to be? What do you think will happen to Janie and Cabel?