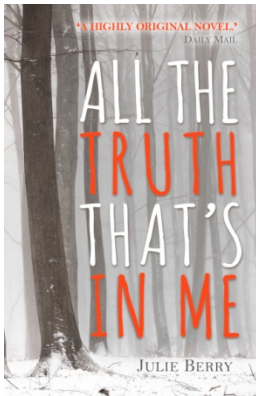


TALKING POINTS

CILIP Carnegie Medal Shortlist 2014



The CILIP Carnegie
& Kate Greenaway
Children's Book
Awards



All The Truth That's In Me By Julie Berry

Before reading

What kind of story does the cover picture make you expect?

What do you think the title means? How does it relate to the story?

Find out where the epigraph to the book comes from. What do you think its relevance is to the story?

The story

The book begins with many mysterious things that are unexplained – can you think of some examples? Did they make you curious, did they make you want to read on?

Judith lives in a society completely different from ours – how does the author bring it to life?

When Lucas reveals his feelings for Judith, were you surprised? Why, or why not?

Why do you think Judith doesn't defend herself at the trial?

There's a big plot twist at the end. Did you see it coming? Did the author leave clues along the way?

Is it a "happy ever after" ending?

The characters

Why do people in the settlement treat Judith the way they do?

Many people discover there's more to Judith than meets the eye – but as we read we discover this is true about many other characters, too. Can you think of some examples?

Judith's mother: how do you explain her behaviour towards her daughter throughout the book?

Maria: how do Judith's feelings about Maria change over the course of the book, and why? Do your feelings about her when reading the book change, too?



Goody Pruet: she isn't one of the main characters, but the author always seems to want her around – what purpose do you think she serves in the story?

There are two important non-human characters, too – the horse called Phantom, and the cow called Person / Io. What is the significance of their names?

How the story is told

The book is divided up into mostly very short chapters. Why do you think the author chose to write it like this?

The story is all told in the second person – addressing a “you”. What effect does this have on her readers?

Some themes

Voices and silence: a lot of the book is about people not speaking, things being unsaid. Judith is not the only person who keeps silent about things – can you think of other examples?

Emotional and physical scars: many characters have traumatic experiences. They are damaged in physical ways, but also mental and emotional ways – does the author try to make you see the connections and differences between these?

Religion and morality: religion is everywhere in this book, but do all the characters use religion in the same ways? Where is their morality imposed from?

Judgment and justice: The society Judith lives in is quick to judge people. On what does it base its judgments? And is it fair? Is the “trial” scene at the end a good example of justice being done?

