*Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech

Discussion Questions

Chapters 1-12:

1. Sal says her story is hidden beneath Phoebe’s. What do you think she means by this?
2. What do you think happened to Sal’s mother? Why doesn’t her father believe Sal can make her mother return?
3. What does Sal mean when she says it was an “act of defiance” for Grandmother Pickford to name Sal’s mother “Chanhassen”?
4. Why do you think Sal’s grandparents chose to follow the same route as Sal’s mother?
5. Who do you think the boy was that visited the Winterbottoms?
6. The Winterbottoms found a note on their porch that said, “Don’t judge a man until you’ve walked two moons in his moccasins.” What do you think this means?
7. What does “everyone has his own agenda” mean?
8. Who do you think is leaving the messages?
9. How are Sal, Phoebe, and Mary Lou different?
10. Why did Gramps hit his best friend in the jaw?

Chapters 13-30:

1. Why do you think Sal’s dad had been crying?
2. Why did Gram ask Gramps if he had a dog before she agreed to marry him?
3. What does Phoebe’s mom mean by “tiny life”?
4. By the end of chapter 16, what are the whispers saying to Sal? Why?
5. What does “In the course of a lifetime, what does it matter?” mean?
6. Do you think Sal’s mom is a bad person? Why or why not?
7. Why did Sal’s mother leave?
8. What does Sal’s dad mean by “people usually come back”?
9. What do you think Sal’s drawing of her soul represented? Why do you think Ben’s was the same?
10. Why does Phoebe feel sick?
11. Why did Phoebe’s mother leave a freezer full of meals?
12. Why did Sal’s mother want to see her cousin?
13. Why are Sal’s grandparents so happy that Sal knows that Phoebe’s mother leaving wasn’t Phoebe’s fault?
14. Why do you think Sal is afraid of cars?

Chapters 31-44:

1. What do you think the message “We never know the worth of the water until the well is dry” was about?
2. Who do you think the “lunatic” really is? What does he have to do with Phoebe’s family?
3. What is Mr. Birkway’s relation to Mrs. Partridge? What do you think his relationship is with Margaret?
4. Why is the class so upset when Mr. Birkway reads from their journals?
5. What really happened to Mrs. Cadaver’s husband?
6. Why do you think Gram was so happy to see Old Faithful? Why didn’t Gramps watch Old Faithful erupt?
7. Why does Sal feel like her first kiss with Ben was like the newlY born horse?
8. Why did Phoebe’s father and sister clean the house and then mess it up again?
9. Who was Mike really? Why do you think Phoebe’s father reacted the way he did?
10. What does Sal realize about her trip with Gram and Gramps?
11. How does Sal’s father know Mrs. Cadaver?
12. Why did Sal’s grandparents take her on that trip to Idaho?
13. Do you think this story ended happily?
14. How does this story represent “hope”?