# Where the Light Goes

## AUTHOR SARA BARNARD

SCIS: 5445866

ISBN: 9781529509137

**RECOMMENDED FOR:** Upper Secondary (Language, Drug References, Suicide References)

#### **SYNOPSIS**

"Lizzie Beck" is one quarter of British pop sensation The Jinks, who launched their career via a reality TV talent show and rose straight to fame—and in Lizzie's case, infamy, for her tumultuous relationship with her boyfriend, stints in rehab and candid confessions about her mental health on Instagram.

To Emmy, though, she will always be her older sister, Beth, the person whose footsteps she intends to follow. Except now she can't. Because Beth, Emmy's beloved sister, has died by suicide.

Forced to face a world without the guiding light of her bright, brilliant big sister, Emmy must wrestle with the impact of private grief, public scrutiny and discover who she once was and who she will become, now that Beth is gone.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Sara Barnard is a bestselling author of six novels for young adults. Her debut *Beautiful Broken Things* was a Zoella Bookclub pick and she went on to win the YA Book Prize with her third novel, *Goodbye, Perfect*.

#### **STUDY NOTES**

- Based on the cover, what do you think this story is about? How do you think it will begin/end? Revisit your answer after reading the story to see if your predictions were correct.
- Discuss the title of the book. Do you think this is a good title? Why or why not? If you were asked to choose an alternative title for the book, what would it be? Remember, a good title should capture the audience's attentions and give them some idea of what the book is about.
- The orientation sets the scene, mood and introduces the characters. Which character/s are we introduced to in the opening scene of the novel?
  - What mood is the author setting?
  - Write what you think could happen in the story based on how the writer has set the story up.
- It is the author's job to make it difficult for the characters to achieve their goals. What trouble (complications) does the author create to make it difficult for the main character to achieve their goal/s?
- Can you identify the climax of the story, the moment of highest tension?
- Characterisation is how the characters in a novel are described physically, their point of view, their personalities, their private thoughts and their actions. Create a mindmap of a character in the story with all the words you can think of to describe their character. Then, write a paragraph describing how you imagine the character would be. Once



### SCHOLASTIC SCHOLASTIC

you have finished, compare your ideas of that character with other people in your class. Did you imagine the same person?

- Consider the world the author has created in this novel. Can you describe it? How is it different to the world you live in? Which elements of the world seem realistic, and which seems fantastical?
- How does the story conclude (resolution)? Compare the ending of the story with how you imagined it ending at the end of the first chapter. Were you surprised by where the story went?
- Design your own cover for the book with new imagery and a new tagline that will persuade and interest people in reading the book.
- Choose a scene in the novel and rewrite it from the perspective of another character. Focus particularly on the character's attitudes and feelings, rather than simply recounting events. How might another character see and experience events differently to the character in the novel?
- Choose your favourite character from the novel. Draw a picture of how you think they look or find one in a magazine/ online. Write a letter from this character to another character in the book. Make sure you use some of the language or expressions that they use in the novel.

