

# Wolfpack

AUTHOR

**AMELIA BRUNSKILL**

SCIS: 5475247

ISBN: 9780316494557

**RECOMMENDED FOR:** Upper Secondary  
(Violence, Sexual References, Drug and Alcohol References)



## SYNOPSIS

Nine girls bound together  
in beautiful, virtuous Havenwood,  
a refuge from an unsafe world.

Then there are eight  
one of them gone—  
departed with no warning.  
Did this member of their pack  
stray willingly,  
or did something more sinister occur?

The girls seek answers  
not knowing if they should be angry  
or frightened  
or perhaps,  
they should be both.

This shocking, suspenseful novel about a group of teenage girls living in a cult shows the terrifying paranoia and suspicion that emerges when one of them goes missing—perfect for fans of *We Were Liars*.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Amelia Brunskill is a writer and a librarian. She drinks a lot of tea, tries to befriend most animals, enjoys a good cable knit sweater, and her neighbours would probably guess that she writes sweet stories about bunnies and unicorns. She was born under sunny Australian skies, but now lives in Illinois. She is also the author of *The Window*. She invites you to visit her online at [ameliabrunskill.com](http://ameliabrunskill.com).

## STUDY NOTES

- What features do you think define a cult? Have you read any other novels, or watched a TV series or movie about a cult, either real or fictional? How does Havenwood seem similar or different?
- Discuss the formatting of the text. Why do you think the author, Amelia Brunskill, chose to set it out in this way? How

did it affect you as a reader?

- Did you connect with any one of the girls more than the others? If so, why?
- What did you think of Rose as a character? In what ways did you form an idea of Rose, without having 'met' her or been in her head like the other girls?
- Fern spent more of her life in the outside world than the others. How do you think this has affected her and the choices she makes?
- In what ways does Joseph fit the pop culture cliché of a cult leader? Consider the ways we learn that Joseph wields his control over those at Havenwood, especially the prayer circle.
- Discuss the way the theme of loyalty is explored in the novel, considering both the potentially positive and negative impacts.
- What examples of gender role imbalance do we see at Havenwood? How does it impact daily life for the girls?
- There are several instances in the novel where the narrative voice shifts. Find these sections (examples include p 152 and pp 242–246) and discuss their impact, as well as why you think the author chose those particular moments.
- Consider the character of Sarah. How has she been affected by her prominent position in the cult, and her close proximity to Joseph? Do you think she shows kindness to the girls? Why or why not?
- What is the importance of the stones in the novel? What might they symbolise?
- Having read the book, what impact does the title have? In what ways could the girls be interpreted as 'wolves,' and in what ways could they be 'sheep'?
- Did you suspect the culprit of Rose's death, or did it surprise you?
- Unlike the others, Violet chooses to leave Havenwood. What do you think drove Violet in particular to make this choice? What do you think the future might look like for her, and for the girls who stay?