



Discussion Questions for *Flyaway* by Lucy Christopher

Isla must cope with her father's frailty and the struggle with leukemia facing her new friend Harry. Through their collective love of nature, she finds faith in saving a lost swan trying to migrate south. Can she magically make everything good again?

1. What animals have a natural habitat in your town or state? Is your town or state a natural habitat for any animals? Have development and industry encroached on their territories?
2. Why do you think the annual migration of the swans is so important to Isla's father?
3. Do you have any special activities, like waiting for the swans, that you do with a family member or friend?
4. Why do you think Isla's relationship with her brother becomes stronger throughout the book?
5. How does Isla's grandfather come through for Isla and her family? Do you think their relationship will improve?
6. What does "swan song" mean in *Flyaway*?
7. Why do you think Isla has such a strong bond with Harry?
8. When Isla is worried about her art project, her mother asks, "If we all love what you've created, what have you got to worry about?" Do you think this is good advice? Why or why not?
9. What do you think really happened to Isla when she led the young swan to her flock?
10. Why do you think it is so important to Harry that he sees the young swan again? Do you think you would risk your health to see the swan if you were Harry?