

Novel Study                      Name \_\_\_\_\_

Note to students: This novel fits in with the play you study in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, “The Diary of Anne Frank”. The book was recommended by the *Facing History and Ourselves* program. In the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Geography class you will study regions of the world and there will be some discussion of the geopolitical divisions. In the 8<sup>th</sup> grade you will study the Holocaust and World War II and may take a class trip to Washington D.C. to visit the Holocaust Museum. The experience of the main character Lisa Jura has similarities and contrasts with Anne Frank. This novel also deals with music and an understanding of the art. The music selections listed are recommended listening only, but highly encouraged to broaden your education (Check YouTube.com to see if they are recorded for you to listen and see the performer)

Companion CD by Mona Golabek : [holdon2yourmusic@aol.com](mailto:holdon2yourmusic@aol.com) (Some questions need to be answered on the back of the page due to space, number them in order if you do this)

### **The Children of Willesden Lane**

#### ***Beyond the Kindertransport: A Memoir of Music, Love, and Survival***

Authors: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Chapter One**

1. Write a description of Lisa Jura: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Where did Lisa’s family live? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How did Lisa get to her music lesson? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What was Lisa’s dream as she rode through Vienna? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. List some of the great composers who once lived in Vienna.
6. a. \_\_\_\_\_ b. \_\_\_\_\_ c. \_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_
6. What political group changed things in Vienna? \_\_\_\_\_
7. List some of the changes to Vienna this group made in everyday life.  
a. \_\_\_\_\_ b. \_\_\_\_\_
8. How long had Lisa studied piano with Professor Isseles? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What was the Professor’s prized possession? \_\_\_\_\_
10. How long had Lisa been working on the Moonlight Sonata? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What terrible news did the Professor give Lisa in his studio? \_\_\_\_\_
12. What did Professor Isseles have to make this announcement? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. What gift did the Professor give Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_
14. What compliment did he say to Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_

15. Five years earlier, Lisa's mother had bought a \_\_\_\_\_ and their neighbors gossiped about this purchase. Now they knew it was not a foolish expense because Lisa was a child \_\_\_\_\_.
16. Describe the neighborhood Lisa grew up in (the Jewish section of Vienna, Austria). \_\_\_\_\_
17. Who had been Lisa's first music teacher? \_\_\_\_\_
18. Describe Lisa's oldest sister Rosie: \_\_\_\_\_
19. What was the name and age of her younger sister? \_\_\_\_\_
20. Why does Lisa rush to wash her face at the end of the chapter? \_\_\_\_\_

(Listen to a recording of the Moonlight Sonata by Beethoven)

### **Chapter Two**

1. What is Abraham Jura's profession? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What personal weakness did Abraham Jura have that caused conflict in Lisa's parent's marriage? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Why is Abraham Jura experiencing problems with his business? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the meaning of the two Shabbat candles? #1 \_\_\_\_\_  
#2 \_\_\_\_\_
5. How does the reader know that Lisa's mother is a generous and religious person? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What happened to Mr. Mendelsohn in the street below Lisa's apartment? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Describe the scene Abraham Jura witnessed in the streets on his way home from Rothbard's store. \_\_\_\_\_
8. What did the storm troopers force Abraham Jura to do? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Where did Malka Jura take her young daughters when she saw the street scene below? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Why did she take them to this place? \_\_\_\_\_

( Listen to Chopin's Prelude #4 in E Minor)

### **Chapter Three**

1. How did the life of school children change in Vienna during this period? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What action was taken against Mr. Jura's tailor shop? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What does Malka say about Adolf Hitler to Sonia? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Abraham Jura discovered the authorities were allowing certain people to leave Austria. Which groups of people were allowed to leave the country by train?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Where were these people going? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How did Abraham Jura get a ticket on one of these trains? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Why couldn't the ticket be used by Rosie? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Which daughter was selected to go on the train leaving Vienna? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Why was this daughter chosen to make the trip to England? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What does the organization called the Bloomsbury House do? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Who does the family hope to send Lisa to stay with in London? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Why did the family not picnic at the Prater? \_\_\_\_\_
13. When was the Kindertransport scheduled to leave Vienna? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Where does the train leave from? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the scene. \_\_\_\_\_

15. What does Lisa give Sonia? \_\_\_\_\_
16. Which person put Lisa on the train? \_\_\_\_\_
17. What does Lisa promise her mother as she leaves Vienna? \_\_\_\_\_
18. What did Malka give Lisa as she stepped onto the train? \_\_\_\_\_

(Listen to a recording of Clair de Lune by Debussy)

#### **Chapter Four**

1. How was each child on the train identified? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What does Michael know about London? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is in Michael's leather drawstring bag? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What did he do with these items in the bag? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Why did he do this action? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Why did Michael cry when the SS passed him by? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What is in the wicker laundry basket pushed on the train? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What did Lisa do to soothe the crying? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Where did the train finally stop? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Describe the windmills of Holland. \_\_\_\_\_
11. What happened to the infant on the train? \_\_\_\_\_
12. How long did it take to cross the English Channel? \_\_\_\_\_

13. How many children arrived in England by boat from Holland? \_\_\_\_\_

(Listen to Chopin's Nocturne in E Minor)

### **Chapter Five**

1. Which famous English railroad station in London was the destination of the children? \_\_\_\_\_

2. When no one came to meet Lisa at the railroad station, what did Lisa fear most? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why did Sid Danziger tell Lisa she could not live with his family? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What was the family connection Lisa had with Sid Danziger? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Where did Lisa go when Sid Danziger did not take her to live with his family? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Chapter Six**

1. Where was Lisa's first position/job? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Describe Captain Richmond, Lisa's first employer? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Where is Mrs. Richmond when Lisa arrives? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Describe Mrs. Richmond. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lisa was caught in a lie by her employer. What was the lie about? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Mrs. Richmond changes Lisa's work assignment to \_\_\_\_\_

7. Where did Lisa go every Saturday with Gladys and Monte? \_\_\_\_\_

8. How did the house staff keep up with the news of Europe? \_\_\_\_\_

9. What did Lisa ask Madam Richmond to look into as a favor to her? \_\_\_\_\_

10. What is Monty preparing to do? \_\_\_\_\_

11. What answer did Madam Richmond have for Lisa about her request? \_\_\_\_\_

12. What did Lisa buy for herself in town on Saturday? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Chapter Seven**

1. Why did Lisa go to town and pick up her bicycle? \_\_\_\_\_

2. How did she prepare to leave Brighton? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Where was Lisa heading? \_\_\_\_\_

4. How did Lisa escape from her attacker on the roadside? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What happened to Lisa's bicycle? \_\_\_\_\_

6. When Lisa left the Richmond family, she was heading for London and \_\_\_\_\_

### **Chapter Eight**

1. How had Great Britain responded to the Kindertransport? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Why are so many people leaving London when Lisa returns? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why is Lisa desperate to earn money? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why can't Sonia come to London? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Describe 243 Willesden Lane. \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is the first rule of the Willesden hostel? \_\_\_\_\_
7. How many girls are living at 243 Willesden Lane? \_\_\_\_\_
8. List the rest of the house rules:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_
  - f. \_\_\_\_\_
  - g. \_\_\_\_\_
9. What was the total number of children living on Willesden Lane? \_\_\_\_\_
10. How many months had passed since Lisa had celebrated Shabbes? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What special foods did they eat on Shabbes? \_\_\_\_\_
12. What made Lisa's fears for her family easier to endure? \_\_\_\_\_
13. What rumor does Gina tell Lisa about Mrs. Cohen? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Describe Aaron. \_\_\_\_\_
15. What time did the lights go out at the hostel? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Chapter Nine**

1. How much did each refugee give to the youth hostel, 243 Willesden Lane, for room and board? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What did Lisa and Gina have in common? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What difference in background was there between Lisa and Gina? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What common worry did the girls share? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Where was the garment factory located in London? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What skill does Lisa have that allows her to get a new job? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What is the "London Underground?" \_\_\_\_\_
8. Where did Lisa finally get to play a piano in London? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What is a Bechstein? \_\_\_\_\_
10. How did every one react to Lisa's impromptu concert? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Who is Myra Hess? \_\_\_\_\_
12. What month and year does the action in this chapter take place? \_\_\_\_\_
13. What special privilege did Mrs. Cohen give Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_
14. What information does Mrs. Cohen give Lisa about her son? \_\_\_\_\_

(Listen to Greig's Piano Concerto in A Minor and Beethoven's 32 Variations in C Minor)

### **Chapter Ten**

1. What news does Lisa receive from Vienna? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which person wrote to her? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What committee did Lisa, Gina, Aaron, Günter, and Paul form? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What was the purpose of this committee? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Why does Lisa burst into tears when the tomato exploded on her chin and blouse? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Who is Mrs. Canfield? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Who agreed to sponsor Sonia? \_\_\_\_\_
8. How soon would Sonia arrive? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What does “total blackout” mean? \_\_\_\_\_
10. How was “total blackout” accomplished? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What ominous development occurred in the war on Friday, September 1, 1939? \_\_\_\_\_
12. What did the convent nuns living next door to the hostel offer the children of Willesden Lane’s hostel?  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. What generous offer did Mrs. Cohen make Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Who would Sonia be living with? \_\_\_\_\_
15. How long did the sisters have together? \_\_\_\_\_
16. What gift did Sonia bring to Lisa from her mother? \_\_\_\_\_
17. What change did Lisa see in Abraham’s picture? \_\_\_\_\_
18. What announcement did Prime Minister Chamberlain make? \_\_\_\_\_
19. Why was Paul so upset with his face down and lifeless? \_\_\_\_\_
20. What was remarkable about Sonia’s arrival in London from Vienna? \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Chapter Eleven***

1. How did the London Zoo prepare for war? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Lisa’s company, Platz and Son, changed over their production assembly line to make \_\_\_\_\_
3. What are official plane spotters? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What job in the war effort did Gunter and Aaron perform? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Where did the “committee” meet every Tuesday and Thursday night? \_\_\_\_\_
6. When Gunter’s father took him for a father and son talk just before the kindertransport, what did he tell Gunter? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What German military award had Gunter’s father received in the Great War (WWI)? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Chapter Twelve**

1. During wartime Britain, how many ounces of meat were allowed per person each week? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How did the young people decorate a snowman? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What did Mrs. Cohen say to Mrs. Glazer about Lisa's kitchen assignments? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What additional information does the reader discover about Mrs. Cohen's son Hans? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What effect did Hans have on Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_

(Listen to The Girl with the Flaxen Hair by Debussy)

### **Chapter Thirteen**

1. Who was the new Prime Minister of England? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Why did Lisa receive back her last letter to her parents? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Mr. Hardesty gave the teens from Willesden Lane some news about the Jews in Europe. What was this news? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Why is Gina so worried about her mother going to a relocation camp? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Where did De Gaulle of France flee to when Paris was occupied by the Nazi war machine? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What happened to Mrs. McRae's husband? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What symbol did she wear? \_\_\_\_\_
8. How were workers of German or Austrian ancestry treated in England during this time? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Which teen went missing? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Why did this individual fail to return to Willesden Lane? \_\_\_\_\_
11. How did Hans become blind? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Why did the Rabbi tell Hans it was a gift from God? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Is Mrs. Cohen very religious? \_\_\_\_\_
14. What does Johnny give Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Chapter Fourteen**

1. What was the London Blitz? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which section of London was hardest hit in the Blitz? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What message did Hitler drop on London from the skies? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What job did Johnny sign up for to help during this difficult time? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What did Lisa decide to do to raise everyone's spirits? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Why does Sonia only write to Lisa in English, not German? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What happened when Lisa refused to go to the bomb shelter and continued to play? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What damage did the Willesden Lane hostel sustain in the bombing raid? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Chapter Fifteen**

1. What job did Mrs. Canfield's son, John, perform for the military? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Where was Lisa placed after the bomb damaged the hostel? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Which hostel teen came to visit her at Mrs. Canfield's house? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What exciting news did her bring to Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What lie did Lisa tell to Mr. Dimble? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Where did Myra Hess perform? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Why are Lisa and Gina no longer going to work together? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What news does Aaron give Lisa about Paul? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What happened to Aaron's father? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Where was he found? \_\_\_\_\_

(Listen to Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring by Bach)

### **Chapter Sixteen**

1. Where did Mrs. Cohen move the piano when the hostel was repaired? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What opportunity did Mrs. Cohen bring to Lisa's attention? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Why is Lisa so concerned about her progress in music? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How did Rosie and Leo escape Vienna? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What news did Lisa receive about her sister Rosie and Leo? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Chapter Seventeen**

1. Who paid Lisa's audition fee for the Royal Academy? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What music did Lisa select for her audition? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How much time did Lisa have to prepare for her audition? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Which teen was most supportive of Lisa when she prepared for her audition? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Whom does Gunter miss terribly at Willesden Lane? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What special movie did Aaron get tickets for Lisa, Gina, Gunter and him to see? \_\_\_\_\_

(Listen to Ballade in G Minor by Chopin)

### **Chapter Eighteen**

1. In what way did Lisa's constant practicing inspire other teens in the hostel? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How does Aaron Lewin get in trouble with Mrs. Cohen? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Why is Mrs. Cohen so angry with him? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Hans discovered Lisa was not completing all the music requirements for her audition. What had Lisa ignored? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What assistance did Hans give Lisa with her audition requirements? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How did Aaron assist Lisa with the audition preparation? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Why did Gina return to London? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What terrible thing happened to Aaron? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Why does Lisa think Aaron's arrest is all her fault? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What does Mrs. Canfield sent over to help Lisa with her practice? \_\_\_\_\_

11. Why did Lisa faint into Mrs. Canfield's arms? \_\_\_\_\_
12. What was the doctor's diagnosis? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Lisa slept through what major event? \_\_\_\_\_
14. What terrible injury did Johnny receive? \_\_\_\_\_
15. How did Johnny receive this injury? \_\_\_\_\_
16. What words of faith does Mrs. Canfield share with Lisa on page 197? \_\_\_\_\_

(Listen to (Pathetique) Piano Sonata in C Minor by Beethoven)

### **Chapter Nineteen**

1. How long did it take for Lisa to recover from her illness? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What did Mrs. McRae give Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What did Lisa dream the night before the audition? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who went with Lisa to the audition? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Why did Lisa feel conspicuous in the audition line? \_\_\_\_\_
6. How long did Lisa's audition last? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What piece did Lisa choose to end her audition ? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What had Lisa's mother told her about this piece of music by Chopin? \_\_\_\_\_
9. How did Lisa feel when she completed her audition? \_\_\_\_\_
10. How did the judges react to Lisa's playing? \_\_\_\_\_

(Listen to Fugue in D Minor by Bach)

### **Chapter Twenty**

1. What did the London Royal Academy of Music mail to Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What lovely thing did Mrs. Cohen say to Lisa after she read her letter from the Royal Academy?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Aaron is released from detention camp and returns to Willesden Lane and Lisa. Where does he take her to celebrate her good news? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Chapter Twenty-one**

1. In what year did the Allies enter Naples and Kiev? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which teen from Willesden Lane died? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What military service did Aaron join? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What profession did Gunter want to pursue? \_\_\_\_\_
5. When did Lisa finally get to see Sonia? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Leo's cousin wrote news of Jews from Vienna. What did he say happened to them? \_\_\_\_\_
7. In 1943, what was Lisa's daily schedule like? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What job did Mrs. Floyd line up for Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Why was it hard for Lisa to leave the sewing factory? \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter Twenty-two**

1. What change does Lisa make in her music selections for the Howard Hotel job? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What did Lisa like best about her new job at the hotel? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What news was in the War Department telegram to the hostel? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What gift did Lisa make to send to Aaron? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Whom does Lisa invite to the hotel to hear her play piano? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Which Willesden Lane teen shows up unexpected at the Howard Hotel one night to hear Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_

7. How is the visit between Lisa and Aaron interrupted? \_\_\_\_\_

8. What announcement does Gina make about Gunter? \_\_\_\_\_

(Listen to Liebestraume by Liszt)

**Chapter Twenty-three**

1. Which composer's music attracted the handsome French gentlemen to Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What was his rank in the French army? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What goal is Lisa working hard toward at the Academy of Music? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What location did Mrs. Floyd suggest for Lisa's debut? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Who would help with the cost of the debut? \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter Twenty-four**

1. How did Lisa learn of the Allied victory? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What famous person addressed the crowd on the Mall? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Where did Lisa want to go to celebrate the Allied victory? \_\_\_\_\_

4. List the concentration camps found on page 246.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

5. How did Lisa search for news of her family members after the war? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Which "kinder" teen found his mother first? \_\_\_\_\_

7. When Aaron returned from the war, what chores did he do? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Where did Aaron decide to move to? \_\_\_\_\_

9. What did Aaron ask Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Why has Lisa's music lost its warmth? \_\_\_\_\_

(Listen to Prelude in C-sharp Minor by Rachmaninoff & Polonaise in A-flat Major by Chopin)

**Chapter Twenty-five**

1. Who performed at Gunter and Gina's wedding? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What fate befell Gunter and Gina's parents? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How did Lisa now feel about Aaron? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who was the special guest who performed at the wedding? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Where were Gunter and Gina moving when his mother joined them? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Which group of children arrived at the Willesden Lane hostel after the war is over? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What was different about these children? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Where did Lisa move to make room for the new children? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What had happened to this person's son? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What is Lisa's most prized possession? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Which Jura family members survived the holocaust? \_\_\_\_\_
12. What news did Rosie and Leo bring? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Where did Rosie have her baby girl? \_\_\_\_\_
14. How did Rosie and Leo escape the Nazis? \_\_\_\_\_
15. What was little Esther wearing around her neck? \_\_\_\_\_
16. What changed Lisa's view and feelings toward music? \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter Twenty-six**

1. Who did Lisa invite to her debut? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the name of the French officer? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What did the officer bring Lisa? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What spirit did Lisa sense with her on the night of her debut? \_\_\_\_\_

**Epilogue**

1. What happened to Aaron? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What happened to Gunter and Gina? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What happened to Hans? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What happened to Mrs. Cohen? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What happened to Sonia? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What was Abraham's last communication? \_\_\_\_\_
7. When was it written? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What happened to Abraham and Malka Jura? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Where did Lisa's children perform in June of 1999? \_\_\_\_\_

**Discussion Questions**

1. What qualities helped Lisa survive the losses she experienced in the war?
2. How is Lisa's life different from the life she dreamed of as a child in Vienna?
3. Why is Lisa's debut evening particularly important to Lisa and her friends?
4. In what way will Lisa and the other "kinder" always be children of Willesden Lane?