TEEN'S BOOK CLUB GUIDE

THE GIRL & THE GREEN HAT

By Rachel Allord

"We pick up speed. The wind blowing in from the little window at the front of the carriage and the wide-open possibility of summer rush over me." – Addie Brown

GENRE

Young Adult Fiction / Christian / Coming of Age / Family Drama

THEMES

Faith | Identity | Friendship | Belonging | Learning to Trust God

CHARACTERS

Addie Brown (Adeline)

Addie is the story's spirited and relatable teenage protagonist. After spending her first year living in London, she eagerly anticipates a carefree summer in Chicago filled with friends, family, and adventure. However, when her plans are disrupted by unexpected family developments and friendship struggles, Addie must learn how to navigate disappointment, change, and uncertainty. Throughout the novel, she grows in maturity and faith as she discovers that trusting God is often easier said than done.

Calvin Brown (Father)

Addie's father plays an important role in the story, particularly when his new romantic relationship catches Addie by surprise. His decisions force Addie to confront difficult emotions and adjust to changes within her family. Although their relationship experiences moments of tension, his character demonstrates the challenges parents face as they balance their own needs with the feelings of their children.

Isabel (Mother – deceased)

Isabel is Addie's mother, who died when she was only nine years old in a car crash. Addie struggles to remember her well but knows she misses her sorely and would give anything to have her mother back with her.

Aunt Becky

Aunt Becky provides Addie with a welcoming and supportive presence during her time in Chicago. She offers encouragement, practical wisdom, and a safe place for Addie to process the events unfolding around her. As a trusted adult in Addie's life, Aunt Becky helps guide her through a season of uncertainty while reminding her that she is loved and supported.

Lauren

Lauren is Addie's longtime best friend and one of the people she is most excited to see during her summer break. Their friendship represents the comfort and familiarity Addie hopes to return to, but changing circumstances challenge their relationship. Through Lauren, the story explores how friendships can evolve over time and how misunderstandings can either divide people or strengthen a relationship when approached with honesty and grace.

The Lady in the Green Hat

The mysterious lady in the green hat appears at key moments throughout the novel, offering guidance, insight, and encouragement when Addie needs it most. Her presence adds an element of mystery to the story and prompts both Addie and the reader to think more deeply about faith, trust, and God's work in everyday life. Whether viewed as a mentor, a symbolic figure, or something more, she becomes an important influence on Addie's journey toward growth and understanding.

STORYLINE

After surviving her first year in London, Addie Brown is excited for six weeks of summer freedom. A trip to Chicago means reconnecting with her best friend Lauren, spending time with Aunt Becky, and escaping school responsibilities. Addie is convinced this might be the best summer ever.

Instead, she is blindsided by her father's new girlfriend, finds friendships becoming complicated, and discovers that life's challenges have a way of following her wherever she goes. As she navigates summer camp, family changes, awkward moments, and unexpected adventures—including a bear encounter—Addie finds help from the mysterious lady in the green hat and learns valuable lessons about faith, identity, and trusting God through change.

The Girl & the Green Hat is a warm, engaging coming-of-age novel that reminds readers that life rarely unfolds according to our plans. Through friendship challenges, family changes, and unexpected adventures, Addie discovers that God's faithfulness remains steady even when everything else seems uncertain.

1 QUESTION ONE

What did you enjoy most about *The Girl & The Green Hat*? Why?

2 QUESTION TWO

How does Addie grow and change throughout the story? What were her greatest hopes at the start of the book? Had they changed by the completion of the story?

3 QUESTION THREE

What roles do family and friendship play in Addie’s journey and experiences?

4 QUESTION FOUR

Identity is an important theme in the story. What does Addie learn about her identity? What did you learn about your own identity through her journey?

5 QUESTION FIVE

How does the novel show the difference between giving advice and truly helping someone?

6 QUESTION SIX

How is faith woven into the story? Did you find Addie's doubts and struggles relatable?

7 QUESTION SEVEN

Throughout the novel, Addie often has expectations for how things should happen. Which expectation was the hardest for her to let go of?

8 QUESTION EIGHT

What does the novel teach about disappointment? If you're comfortable, share about a disappointing experience that has taught you something.

9 QUESTION NINE

The title focuses on the mysterious lady in the green hat. Why do you think the author chose this title? What does the mysterious lady in the green hat symbolise?

10 QUESTION TEN

If you could spend an afternoon with one character, who would it be and why?

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