

## Terabithia: A Land Full of Meaning

Use the book and the movie to help you answer these questions. Look up unfamiliar words in the dictionary or discuss them with a grown-up.

Jess and Leslie made up the land of Terabithia as a place of escape. What in real life do you think they were trying to escape from? What does Terabithia mean to each of them?

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After Leslie's death, how does Terabithia change for Jess? Consider Jess's changing behavior, such as first kicking out May Belle, then welcoming her, and, finally, building the bridge.

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Elisabeth Kübler-Ross, a Swiss psychiatrist, identified five stages of grief that people often go through when they lose a loved one. She called these stages denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. Write about the parts in the book and in the movie that show Jess experiencing these stages. Does Terabithia help Jess during this painful time? How?

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