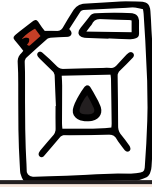




# A LONG WALK TO WATER: DISCUSSION GUIDE #3



## Chapters 15 – 18

### Comprehension:

- How is Salva's new neighborhood in Rochester different from where he grew up in Sudan?
- What is Salva studying in school? What does he hope to do when he finishes school?
- Why does Salva travel back to Sudan?
- Why does Salva's father say Salva should not go see the rest of the family in Loun-Ariik?
- What gives Salva the idea for his project to help Sudan? What is his idea?
- At first, Salva finds himself overwhelmed by the amount of work involved in his project. What does Salva remember about Uncle? How does this help him move forward?
- When the water first comes out of the hole being drilled in Nya's village, it is brown and muddy. Uncle Dep tells Nya it won't always be this way. What does Uncle Dep explain needs to happen before the well will be able to provide clean water?
- What do the men build in Nya's village after digging a well? Why?
- What surprises Nya about the crew leader helping her village? Why?

### Analysis:

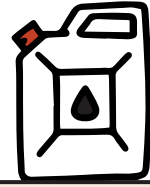
- When Salva recalls his time in Nairobi, he says it was "all a blur," but there was one clear moment. What is the moment, and why do you think it stands out so clearly for Salva?
- Reread the section where Salva travels to America—first to Nairobi and then on a long plane trip that ends in New York. What is this trip probably like for Salva? What are some words that come to mind that describe how he must feel? Use examples from the text to support your answer.
- When Salva returns to Sudan after living in America, he feels that everything is very familiar but also very different. "How could memories feel so close and so far away at the same time?" he asks. Explain what Salva means and why you think he feels this way.

### Personal:

- Some people have mottos, or phrases that help them remember what is important to them. Some examples of mottos include "Always do your best," and "Treat others the way you would like to be treated." What do you think Salva's motto would be? What would be your own motto?



# A LONG WALK TO WATER: DISCUSSION GUIDE #3



## Salva's Message and Author's Note

- Salva says that he wants others to learn about the Lost Boys and Sudan from reading *A Long Walk to Water*. Do you think the book achieves this goal? How did the book help you to learn about the Lost Boys and Sudan? What would you like to have seen more of or learned more about from the book?
- How did the author, Linda Sue Park, learn the details of Salva's story? How did she gather information for Nya's story?
- Describe the impact of the Sudanese Civil War.\* What happened to many Sudanese people during this time? How did the civil war end?
- Where did Salva's organization, Water for Sudan (now called Water for South Sudan), drill its first well?
- How do you think *A Long Walk to Water* might help the people of Sudan?
- The author says that it has been "an honor," or a special privilege or responsibility, to write a book about Salva. Explain what this means. Why might writing about someone's life be "an honor"?

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*\*Note for teachers: The conflict described in the book is actually the Second Sudanese Civil War, which took place from 1983-2005. The First Sudanese Civil War (1955-1972) was also between the northern and southern parts of Sudan.*