

How to print this booklet

Open the PDF, choose Print, and set these:

Paper size	US Letter (8.5 × 11 in)
Orientation	Landscape
Print on both sides	On (two-sided / duplex)
Flip on	Short edge
Scale	100% / Actual size — not “Fit to page”
Pages	All

THEN

1. Take the whole stack out of the printer. Keep the sheets in order.
2. Fold the stack in half, so this page is on the outside.
3. Staple twice along the fold.



Make another at didtheyreallyread.com

Reading Journal

My thoughts, chapter by chapter

Reader:

Book Title:

The Swifts: A Garden of Vipers

Author:

Beth Lincoln

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
Created by didtheyreallyread.com

How to Answer

Your answer does not have to be perfect. Just answer in complete thoughts and use details from the chapter.

How to structure your answer

A strong answer usually has a few parts. Try these steps:

- 1. **Answer the question.** Start with one sentence that answers the question directly.
- 2. **Give an example.** Add a detail or moment from the chapter that shows what you mean.
- 3. **Explain why.** Tell why it mattered, or how it made you think or feel.
- 4. **Wrap it up.** Finish with a closing thought, a question, or a prediction.

Would you have made the same choice as one of the characters in this chapter? Explain your thinking.

Example answer: For an imagined chapter where a character asks for help, I would make the same choice. I sometimes want to solve everything myself, but another person might notice something I missed. Asking for help would not mean I had given up. I would still try to do my part.

Chapter 40

How has your understanding of the story changed after this chapter? Explain what you now think differently.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 39

Which sentence would you share with another reader, and why is it worth noticing?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

Pick a word you did not know well or found interesting. How did the nearby words help you understand its meaning?

Example answer: If I found the word "hesitated," I would look at what the character did next. If they paused before opening a door, I would guess that the word means they waited because they were unsure. That clue would help me understand both the word and the character's feelings. I could check a dictionary to see whether my guess was right.

What does this chapter make you think about trust? Use a character's words or actions to explain.

Example answer: In an imagined chapter where someone keeps a promise, I would think about how actions build trust. Saying "You can count on me" is not enough by itself. Keeping the promise would show that the character means those words. I would trust that character more because their actions match what they said.

Chapter 1

What is the most important thing that happens in this chapter, and why does it matter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 38

What might this chapter suggest about judging someone before you know them well?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 37

How does a character respond when something does not go as expected?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

How does a character's choice in this chapter help you understand what kind of person they are?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Based on a clue from this chapter, what do you predict might happen next?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 36

What unfinished business from this chapter do you expect the story to return to?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 35

Look for a word that could have more than one meaning. Which meaning fits this chapter, and how can you tell?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

Which word or phrase helped you picture the setting, and what image did it create in your mind?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

What does this chapter suggest about treating other people fairly?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 34

Which character seems hardest to understand right now, and what would help you understand them better?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 33

What cause-and-effect connection can you find between two events in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

Which part of this chapter interested you most, and what made it stand out?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

Would you have made the same choice as one of the characters in this chapter? Explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 32

If you could visit one place described in this chapter, which would you choose and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 31

What does this chapter make you think about trust? Use a character's words or actions to explain.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

How would you explain the main problem in this chapter to someone who has not read it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

What can you learn about a character's feelings from their words or actions?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

How does the mood change during this chapter? Point to details that create those feelings.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

Which character would you most like to talk to after reading this chapter, and what would you ask?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

Where do you think the main problem might lead, and what makes you think so?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

Choose a strong action word from this chapter.
How does it make the scene more exciting or clear?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

What information does the reader learn in this chapter that a character might not know?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

How might a character react to a challenge they are likely to face next? Use what you know about them.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

What question would you like the next chapter to answer, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

How does the place or time of this chapter affect what the characters can do?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

Choose a comparison or descriptive phrase from this chapter. What does it help you understand?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

What does a character want in this chapter, and what stands in the way?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Which relationship seems important in this chapter, and what do you notice about it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

What lesson could a reader learn from a mistake or success in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

Was any part of this chapter confusing at first? Explain how you worked toward understanding it.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

Which idea about friendship, family, or belonging fits this chapter best? Support your choice with a detail.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

If you could give this chapter a new title, what would you choose and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

What small detail seems worth remembering, and how might it become important later?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

What does a conversation in this chapter reveal that the characters' actions alone might not show?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

How does this chapter connect to something that happened earlier in the story?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

Pick a word you did not know well or found interesting. How did the nearby words help you understand its meaning?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

When does a character show courage, worry, or doubt in this chapter? What reveals that feeling?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

What might happen if a character takes a different approach to the problem they face?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
