

EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

Christina June

no place LIKE HERE

Life leads you to unexpected places.
Love brings you home.



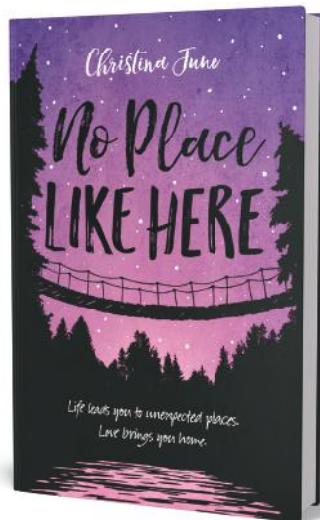
EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

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BY CHRISTINA JUNE // GUIDE BY KATHRYN ELISE BARNETT



Christina June writes young adult contemporary fiction when she's not writing college recommendation letters during her day job as a school counselor. She loves the little moments in life that help someone discover who they're meant to become—whether it's her students or her characters. Christina is a voracious reader, loves to travel, eats too many cupcakes, and hopes to one day be bicoastal—the east coast of the U.S., and the east coast of Scotland. She lives just outside Washington, D.C., with her husband and daughter.



Guide created by Kathryn Elise Barnett, a high school English teacher with a BA of English from the University of Georgia and a MA of Secondary English Education from Piedmont College.

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Pre-Reading Questions

Before reading the novel, discuss these questions with your students. It may be helpful to have your students record their thoughts in order to allow them to reflect when they finish reading the novel.

1. Describe the effects of social media on your life. Consider whether you think social media has positive impacts on your relationships.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.3; W.9-10.4; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1]

2. Consider a time you had to give someone bad news. What did you say? How did they react?

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.3; W.9-10.4; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1]

3. Define family in your words.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.9-10.4]

4. Discuss how you feel setting can impact the plot of a novel.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.4; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.10 CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1]

5. Define foreshadowing.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.9-10.4; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2;
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.9-10.4]

Pre-Reading Activities

Students may complete the following actives before reading the novel.

1. Thank You Letter

- a. Think of one person on whom you know you can always depend. Write this person a letter thanking them for always being there for you.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.10]

2. Talents

- a. List three distinct features about yourself that set you apart from others and will help you later in life. (Examples: creativity, artistic, ability to construct, organized, personable, etc.)

- b. Explain in what ways you excel at each of the three items and discuss how each item could help you find success in the future with a career.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.10]

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Post-Reading Questions

After reading the novel, discuss these questions with your students. If you had your students record their responses to the pre-reading questions, then have them review their responses and respond to the following post-reading questions on the same sheet of paper.

1. Consider Ashlyn's character trajectory. Explain whether it was what you expected.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1; RL.9-10.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.9; W.9-10.10; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1]

2. Discuss whether it was appropriate for Cassie Pringle's mother to post the article about Ashlyn's father to a social media platform with the comment, "Cass, doesn't this guy's daughter go to your school?"

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1; RL.9-10.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.9; W.9-10.10; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1]

3. Discuss why you think there is a negative stigma attached to seeking help from mental health professionals the way Ashlyn's mom does.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1; RL.9-10.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.9; W.9-10.10; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1]

4. Find a moment when you felt Marcus' negative character was foreshadowed.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1; RL.9-10.3; RL.9-10.5; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.9; W.9-10.10; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1]

5. Describe how you think Deb got the job at Sweetwater.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1; RL.9-10.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.9; W.9-10.10; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1]

6. Choose your favorite character from the novel and describe their qualities and why you like them.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1; RL.9-10.3; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.9; W.9-10.10; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1]

7. Describe how you think the setting of Sweetwater contributed to Ashlyn's growing confidence over the course of the novel.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1; RL.9-10.5; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.9; W.9-10.10; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1]

8. Consider the conflict with Deb as a manager and how Ashlyn and Hannah resolve the conflict. Explain whether you think there is anything they should have done differently.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1; RL.9-10.3; RL.9-10.5; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.9; W.9-10.10; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1]

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Activities

Students may complete the following actives after reading the novel.

1. Quote that Quote

- a. Choose your favorite quote that Ashlyn writes in the book and research the origin of the quote. In a paragraph give the quotes origin and explain why the quote was of interest to you.

[\[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1; RL.9-10.4; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.8\]](#)

2. Book Talk

- a. Give a one minute book talk including a brief summary of the book and why someone should read it.

[\[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.4\]](#)

3. Book Cover

- a. Design a cover for the book that you think represents the story, include one quote from the story as well.

[\[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1; RL.9-10.4; RL.9-10.5\]](#)

4. Careers

- a. Make a list of three potential careers that interest you and research each career recording the following pieces of information: job description, qualification, and salary.
- b. Discuss how your talents will be an asset in each career you research.

[\[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2; W.9-10.4; W.9-10.8\]](#)