The Lost Twin

Scarlet & Ivy • Book 1 • by Sophie Cleverly

This is the story of how Ivy became her sister...

When shy Ivy's troublemaking twin Scarlet vanishes from Rookwood boarding school, Ivy is invited to "take her place." But when Ivy arrives, she discovers the school's true intention: she has to pretend to be Scarlet. She must think like Scarlet, act like Scarlet, become Scarlet. What on earth happened to the real Scarlet, and why is the school trying to keep it a secret?

Luckily for Ivy, Scarlet isn't about to disappear without a fight. She's left pieces of her journal carefully hidden all over the school for Ivy to find. Ivy's going to figure out what happened to Scarlet. She's got to.

But the staff of Rookwood is always watching, and they'll do anything to keep their secrets buried.

About the Author

Sophie Cleverly began writing *Scarlet and Ivy* in her second year at university, where she studied creative writing. She knew she had to finish telling the story, and when she heard that the university offered an MA in Writing for Young People, she realized it was the perfect opportunity. She lives in Wiltshire, England. This is her debut. Visit www.hapfairy.co.uk.

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Discussion Questions

1. How does the description of Rookwood School in chapter 3 make you feel? How would you describe Ivy's feelings about seeing the school for the first time?

2. *The Lost Twin* is set in England in the 1930s. Did the book give you a good sense of the time and place? What do you think would be the advantages and disadvantages of living in this period of history?

3. How do you think the story would have been different if it took place today?

4. Ivy must pretend to be Scarlet to find out the truth. How would you feel if you had to pretend to be someone you know—perhaps a sibling or friend? Do you think you could put on a convincing performance?

5. Scarlet leaves a trail of diary entries for Ivy to follow. What items would you use to leave a trail for someone to help them track you down?

6. What do you learn about Scarlet from her diary entries? Can you give some words to describe her personality? How is she different from her twin?

7. Why do you think Penny and Nadia bully Scarlet and Ivy? What are their reasons? What would you do if you were Ivy?

8. Do you think Ivy should have told Ariadne the truth about her identity from the start? Why do you think she didn't?

9. Do you think Ivy and Ariadne were right to confront Miss Fox at the end?

10. How do you think Ivy has changed by the end of the story? What has she learned?

11. After reading the book, would you like to visit Rookwood? Explain why/why not.

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Activity Ideas

Decorate Your Diary

Scarlet wrote in her diary all the time, and it later helped Ivy solve the mystery of what happened to her sister. Purchase diaries for all attending readers, and then provide stickers, markers, glue, glitter, and other fun decoration materials so they can personalize their very own diaries!

Scavenger Hunt

Ivy had to find pieces of Scarlet's diary scattered around Rookwood boarding school. Organize a *The Lost Twin*–themed book scavenger hunt for your readers by splitting them into teams and having them find library books that meet the following qualifications: a book set in England, a book about twins, a book with "Scarlet" in the title, a mystery book, a book with a character named Ivy.

Reward the first team to complete the scavenger hunt with copies of *The Lost Twin*!

Finish the Diary Entry

If you've finished *The Lost Twin*, you know the truth about what happened to Scarlet. Come up with an alternate ending, and write your own version of events from Scarlet's perspective by finishing the cut-off diary entry below.

Now, you need to find the rest of my diary. You CANNOT let anyone else see it. But someone needs to know the truth about