

# BEYOND THIS BROKEN SKY

## BOOKCLUB DISCUSSION PROMPTS

In the opening scene of the novel Ruby is conducting a fake séance but with the intention of bringing people hope and reassurance at a very distressing time. Do you think she was right to do what she did? And is it ever OK to deceive people if you're trying to make them feel better?

*Beyond This Broken Sky* features a conscientious objector, Joseph, as a main character. How much did you know about conscientious objectors before reading the novel? Did reading about Joseph and his reasons for refusing to fight change your opinion about pacifists?

What did you think about the novel's setting in London during the Blitz? How do you think you would have coped living with the constant threat of bombing raids and death, and could you see any parallels between life back then and life now, during a global pandemic?

Did you enjoy the fact that *Beyond This Broken Sky* is a novel within a novel? Do you think this structure added to the story?

What did you make of the modern day storyline and the mystery element to the novel? Do you like it when there's a modern day storyline in historical fiction, or would you prefer to just read about the historical time period?

Towards the end of the book Ruby takes drastic action to help her friend Kitty. Do you think she was right to do what she did? And do you think Kitty, Freddy and Joseph were right to help her afterwards?

Which of the characters was your favourite and why?

What did you think of the twist at the end?