

Stories of the Lost Discussion Questions

1. What do you think about the concept of the word LOST? How did the book convey various aspects of LOST? Did you identify any other concepts of LOST?
2. Before you read this book, how much did you know about individual soldier stories and what their families endured during these wars? What did you learn that surprised you?
3. Were you surprised at the amount of emotion in this book? Were you expecting more of a biography of each soldier with research notes?
4. Think about Joseph and Majdalena in Michael's story. What did you think about how long it took to bring Michael's remains home? If you are a parent, how would you have coped with that?
5. In Frankie's story, the shortest in the book, we see the story change slightly from what the family passed down to what the records showed. What stories in your family have changed in a similar way?
6. Robert's story provides a graphic account of his life with the Flying Tigers and his near death experience. How did you feel after reading his story knowing he escaped death once to have it find him soon after?
7. As you read James' Tough 'Ombres story, what did you learn about the life soldier's led in the field that you did not prior to reading this story? Did anything surprise you?
8. How did you feel when you learned James was transferred from Ordnance to Infantry? The Ordnance Company lost only two men the entire time they were overseas. Had James remained in Ordnance, there is a good chance he would have survived the war.
9. All the families of the fallen had to deal with the loss, wait, and burial of their soldiers. What similarities and differences did you see between the stories?
10. The men of the Graves Registration Service are not discussed much in books. Did you know about these soldiers prior to reading this book? What did you think of their job? Do you understand how the records they created help researchers locate additional service information on their soldiers?
11. What research tips or resources did you learn by reading this book?

12. For those interested in researching and writing the stories of their family's soldiers, did this book provide enough varied examples of how to piece together a story with a little or lot of information? Can you see how these examples can be applied to your family stories?

13. Reading *Stories of the Lost* made me realize