

Discussion Questions:

Ch. 6/7

Why did Stukachov make a false report about Sasha's Dad. What did he have to gain?

Ch. 8

Sasha decides to ask Stalin to free his Dad. How does this visit to the Kremlin go?

Why is Sasha still loyal to Stalin? What would you do in Sasha's situation?

Ch. 9

Sasha asks Aunt Larisa to take him in. Why do Aunt Larisa and her husband turn Sasha away? Was this common for relatives to turn away the children of those who were arrested? Despite turning Sasha away, how does Aunt Larisa still show kindness?

Sasha tells Aunt Larisa's baby not to cry because he will "grow up in Communism." Why is Sasha so loyal to Communism? Is this similar to America? Why or why not?

Ch. 10

Sasha remembers the last time he stayed with Aunt Larisa, during his mother's death. Sasha recalls when his Dad returned home from the hospital with the news of his mother's death, Aunt Larisa said that his father looked guilty. What may have really happened to his Mom?
