

Discussion Guide for
The Inside Battle by Melanie Sumrow

- At the beginning of the book, the author provides an inspirational quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: “In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.” What does this quote mean to you?
- Why do you think it is so hard for Rebel to stand up to his dad, even when he thinks his dad is wrong?
- Do you think Rebel has a right to be angry with Ajeet after the competition? Why or why not?
- Did it surprise you that there were other kids at the training camp? Why or why not?
- The Flag Bearers believe in several anti-government conspiracies. Do you think their beliefs justify their behavior? Why or why not?
- Why do you think Rebel can assemble the weapons, even though he doesn’t want to fire them?
- Why do you think Calliope is important to the story?
- Nathan and Josiah are both combat veterans. What do you think makes them different from each other? How are they alike?
- The honeybee is an important symbol used throughout the book. Why do you think the author chose to use the honeybee?

- Josiah “takes a stand” against the Flag Bearers in his own way. Do you agree with his approach? Why or why not?
- At the end of the book, do you think Ajeet should forgive Rebel? Why or why not?
- Do you think Rebel should forgive his dad? Why or why not?