

BLUE POSTCARDS

by Douglas Bruton

QUESTIONS

- What is your first impression of the structure of the book? In your opinion, what is the author trying to achieve?
- The author employs various techniques to mislead the reader. Can you identify any? How are they used and what effect do they have?
- How many characters are there in the novella? Why could the answer to this be ambiguous?
- There are three separate main characters, in three different timelines. How do they co-exist in the book? What is the linking factor between their stories?
- The colour blue is an important motif. What could be the advantages and disadvantages of relying heavily on one image?
- How is each of the three main characters introduced? Does the author use different techniques for each of them?
- Fact and fiction intertwine throughout the story. As a writer, would your approach to writing fiction based on fact differ from your approach to writing pure fiction?

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WRITING EXERCISES

A) Write a passage of 1,000 words that centres around a colour of your choice.

OR

B) Write a passage of 500 words that includes elements of metafiction.

NOTES
