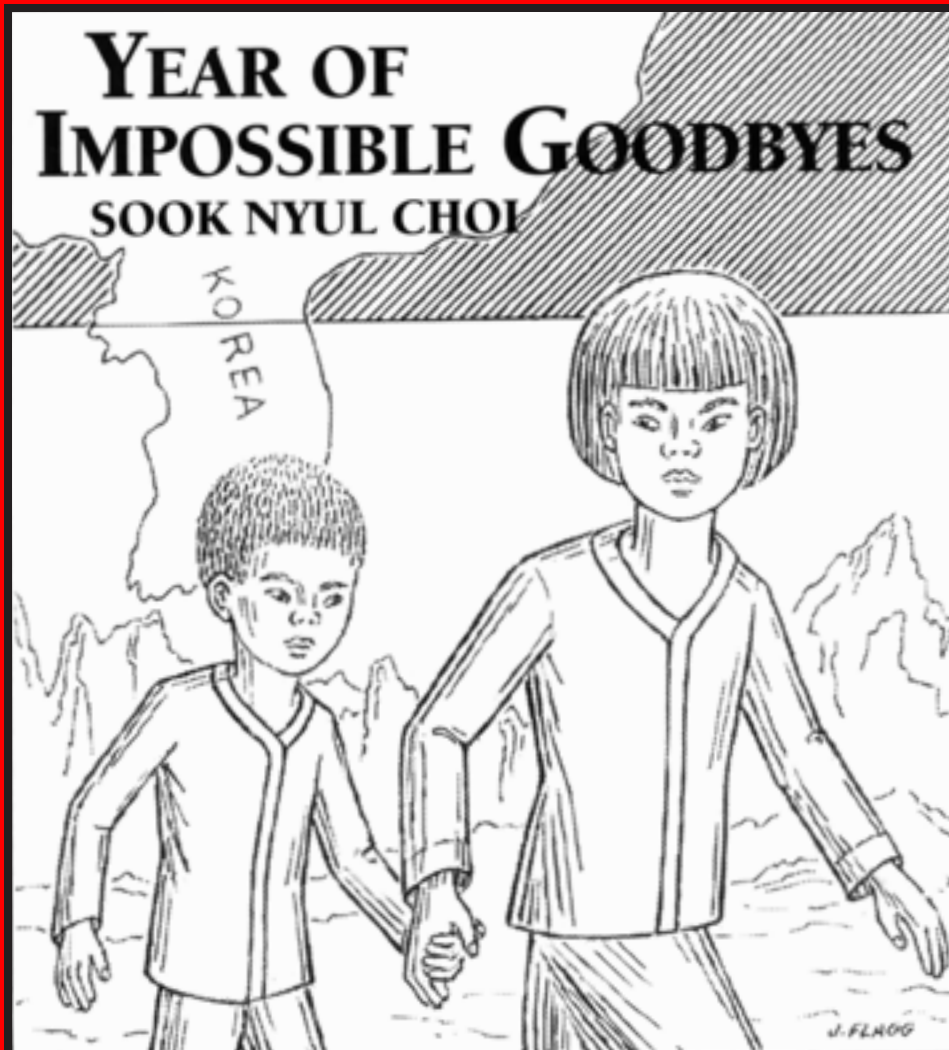


# Novel·Ties



## A Study Guide

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**LEARNING LINKS**

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## For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide consists of lessons to use in conjunction with the book *Year of Impossible Goodbyes*. Written in chapter-by-chapter format, the guide contains a synopsis, pre-reading activities, vocabulary and comprehension exercises, as well as extension activities to be used as follow-up to the novel.

In a homogeneous classroom, whole class instruction with one title is appropriate. In a heterogeneous classroom, reading groups should be formed: each group works on a different novel on its reading level. Depending upon the length of time devoted to reading in the classroom, each novel, with its guide and accompanying lessons, may be completed in three to six weeks.

Begin using NOVEL-TIES for guided reading by distributing the novel and a folder to each child. Distribute duplicated pages of the study guide for students to place in their folders. After examining the cover and glancing through the book, students can participate in several pre-reading activities. Vocabulary questions should be considered prior to reading a chapter or group of chapters; all other work should be done after the chapter has been read. Comprehension questions can be answered orally or in writing. The classroom teacher should determine the amount of work to be assigned, always keeping in mind that readers must be nurtured and that the ultimate goal is encouraging students' love of reading.

The benefits of using NOVEL-TIES are numerous. Students read good literature in the original, rather than in abridged or edited form. The good reading habits will be transferred to the books students read independently. Passive readers become active, avid readers.

that the Japanese were behind them.

By defeating China in 1894 and Russia in 1904-5, Japan was able to annex Korea in 1910. This began a period of oppression by the Japanese, who attempted to erase any evidence of Korean national identity. The Japanese forbade the use of the national language, banning many books and periodicals written in Korean. Publication of newspapers was suspended, and patriotic organizations were closed down. Dissident leaders were arrested, and all police functions were taken over by an enlarged Japanese police force. Korean history was erased from the school curriculum. The Japanese even demanded that Koreans take Japanese names. Many young Koreans were forced to join the Japanese army or work in Japanese mines and factories during World War II. Many Koreans rebelled, but the uprisings were contained. The oppression continued until Japanese rule ended in 1945 with Japan's defeat in World War II.

When the Allies emerged victorious at the end of World War II, a defeated Japan lost control of the Korean peninsula, but Korea's troubles did not end. Neither the United States nor the Soviet Union wanted the other to control the entire country. The Soviet Union wanted a Communist government in place, while the United States insisted on a democratic system. It was agreed that the Soviet Union would accept the Japanese surrender north of the 38th Parallel and American troops would remain in the south until a plan could be developed to reunite Korea. When no agreement had been reached after two years, the United States asked the United Nations for help. The Soviet Union, however, refused entry to the U.N. Commission that was to oversee free elections. Therefore, only South Korea held an election in 1948. In August 1948, the Republic of Korea was formed south of the 38th Parallel. Soon after, the Soviet Union formed the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the North and installed a Korean Communist general as its leader.

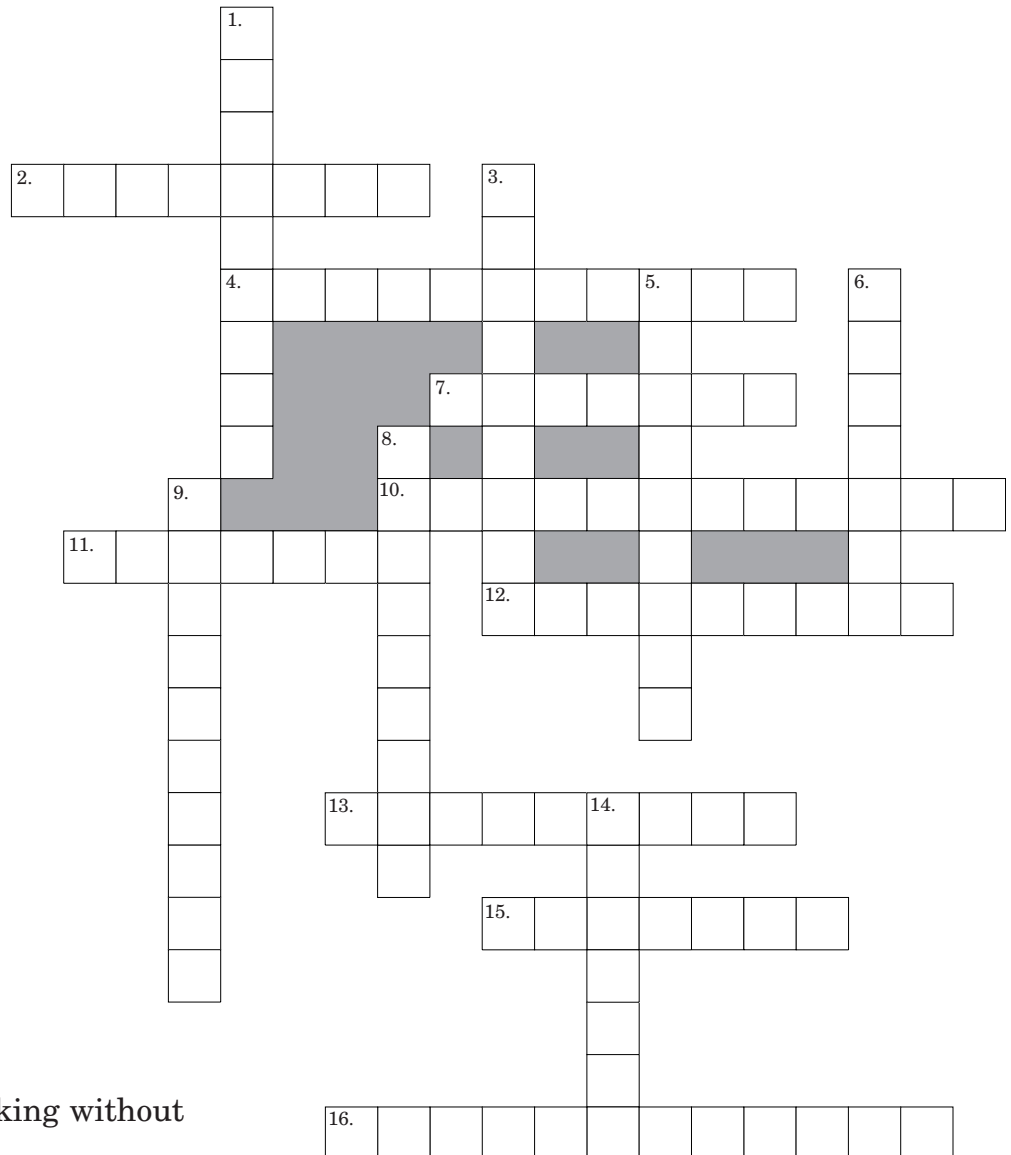
After the division of Korea, huge numbers of North Korean refugees fled to the South. The United States helped South Koreans rebuild their country. At the same time, however, the Soviet Union began to build up the North Korean Army for an eventual invasion of the South. On June 25, 1950, Communist North Koreans attacked the South with the goal of placing the whole country under Communist domination. Hostilities ceased when the American U.N. commander signed an armistice agreement with the government of the Democratic People's Republic on July 27, 1953. Korea remains two separate countries divided at the 38th Parallel.

## CHAPTERS 1, 2

**Vocabulary:** Use the words in the Word Box and the clues below to complete the crossword puzzle.

### WORD BOX

disdain  
dominated  
emanating  
exhilaration  
frenetically  
meditated  
monotone  
multitude  
parched  
pensively  
prosperity  
respite  
sibling  
tarnished  
temperament  
vibrant



### Across

2. manner of speaking without change of pitch
4. disposition; personality
7. scorn
10. lively joy; high spirits
11. very dry
12. loomed over
13. thoughtfully
15. brother or sister
16. frantically

### Down

1. a great many
3. dull
5. flowing
6. time of relief and rest
8. engaged in deep reflection
9. good fortune
14. lively; enthusiastic