



SOUTH ASIA BOOK AWARD
for Children's and Young Adult Literature

Research and discussion topics for **Chained** by *Lynne Kelly*



Background suggestions:

Students will understand more about the relationships in the novel if they understand how elephants communicate and what emotions elephants are capable of feeling. Split the class and assign each half one of the two segments of the Nature show from PBS on Elephants.

1. Elephant emotions
2. Crack the Code of Elephant Communications

This could be assigned for homework with students sharing out major points in pairs the next day or as a whole class discussion.

Questions for Open Discussion, Socratic Circles or any other student centered discussion method:

Students may be encouraged to look up answers to the questions before the class discussion bringing in quotes and page numbers to support their answers.

Make a list of differences between Hastin's home in India and the jungle compound.
How will those differences effect the way people live?

What do you think were the two major factors in Hastin deciding to take the job with Timir?

Would you have taken the job? Why? Why not?

An effective author creates characters that we like or dislike. Describe some of the traits of these characters: Timir, Sharad, Ne Min, Nandita.

Why didn't Hastin just run away from the compound and go home?

Ne Min was a mentor to Hastin. Can you think of another novel that has a young person/mentor relationship?

How are the relationships similar? Different?

As we read the novel the back stories of Timir, Sharad and NeMin become clear.

How do these back stories effect how that person acts in the present time?

Do you think that it is realistic that Nandita/s herd found their way to her and remembered her? Why?