

A Separate Peace – Study Guide

Background

John Knowles drew heavily on his own life while writing A Separate Peace, particularly his experience one summer at a prep school called Exeter. The two main characters, Gene and Finny, are based largely on Knowles and a school friend named David Hackett. What eventually happens to Finny is based on the actual demise of another Exeter student, Bob Tait. Although the book has many elements in it drawn from Knowles' own life in one form or another, it is a work of fiction.

Vocabulary

For help with vocabulary, go to: <http://www.vocabulary.com/lists/25160>

You will see a list of words that is several pages long. Just click on whichever words you need help with to see the definitions.

Characters

For a list of characters with brief descriptions, go to: <http://www.gradesaver.com/a-separate-peace/study-guide/character-list/>