About the Author
Paulette Jiles

Paulette Jiles is a poet and memoirist. She is the author of Cousins, a memoir, and the bestselling novels Enemy Women and Stormy Weather. She lives in San Antonio, Texas.
1. Jiles chose not to punctuate any of the dialogue between characters. Did this enhance or detract from your enjoyment of the novel?

2. Why do you think kidnapped children like Johanna wanted to return to their Indian families after being brought home to their biological families? Do you think it is in the best interest of the child to honor their wishes or to re-assimilate them to their former way of life?

3. Why do you think Johanna’s life was spared while the rest of her family was brutally murdered by the Indians? Why did they adopt her and raise her as one of their own? Do you think her Indian family was upset when she was rescued?

4. What did Captain Kidd gain from his relationship with Johanna? What did Johanna gain? Who do you think benefitted the most?

5. Were you satisfied with how the story ended? Do you think Captain Kidd was right to take Johanna away from her family?

6. According to recent media reports, Tom Hanks has purchased the rights to adapt News of the World into film. Do you think the novel will make a good movie? Who would you cast in the role of Captain Kidd?