

## Visual Impairment: Fox River (Novel) Est. Time: 2 Weeks Reading/45 Minutes Class

### Objective

Gain a better understanding of the impact a visual impairment can have on individuals and their families.

### Synopsis

Set in Virginia, this novel revolves around aristocracy, horses, murder, and relationships. During a ride, Julia Warwick falls from her horse and loses her sight. Diagnosed with hysterical blindness, Julia not only learns to adapt to her new environment but also to explore issues and relationships that affect her disability.

### Activity

Read the following book and be prepared to discuss the questions below in class.

Title: *Fox River* (2001)

Author: Emilie Richards

Publisher: MIRA Books • New York

#### For Your Information

To learn more about visual impairments, visit:

- [Visual Impairment, Including Blindness](#) (Center for Parent Information and Resources)
- [American Foundation for the Blind](#) (AFB)

### Questions/Discussion Topics

1. What is hysterical blindness?
2. Where does Julia's husband place her when he learns of her blindness?
3. Why does Julia want to leave "the clinic"?
4. What kind of physical accommodations does Julia's mother, Maisy, make when Julia comes to live with her?
5. Do you think Julia ever comes to terms with her blindness? Why or why not?
6. What would you have done differently had you been in Julia's place?