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Book Club Discussion Guide

Pre-Discussion Activities

- Research recent environmental disasters in your area
- Review news stories about youth environmental activism
- Share personal experiences with environmental changes
- Explore Indigenous perspectives on environmental stewardship

Key Themes for Discussion

1. *Environmental Responsibility*

- How does the train disaster represent larger environmental issues?
- What does the book suggest about corporate accountability?
- How do different generations view environmental responsibility?
- Discuss the metaphor of “dragon sight” - what does it represent?

2. *Youth Activism and Power*

- How effective are Hannah and Jacob’s methods of creating change?
- What role does social media play in modern activism?
- How do the adults in the story evolve in their view of youth capability?
- What makes youth activism different from adult-led movements?

3. *Connection to Nature*

- How has humanity’s relationship with nature changed?
- What role do Indigenous perspectives play in the story?
- How does the author portray the relationship between dragons and their planets?
- What does the book suggest about human attempts to control nature?

4. *Personal Identity and Growth*

- How does Jacob’s journey of self-acceptance parallel environmental themes?
- What role does Hannah and Jacob’s friendship play in the story?
- How do family relationships evolve throughout the narrative?
- What does the dragon glass symbolize for different characters?

5. *Science and Magic*

- How does the author blend real science with fantasy elements?
- What purpose do the dragons serve as metaphors?
- How does traditional knowledge interact with modern technology?
- Discuss the significance of “dragon fire” in the story

6. *Hope and Sacrifice*

- What does Jupiter’s sacrifice represent?
- How does the book balance environmental crisis with hope?
- What role does intergenerational responsibility play?
- How do different characters define “making a difference”?

Activities for Deeper Engagement

1. *Environmental Awareness Exercise*

- Document environmental changes in your community
- Create a photo essay of local environmental concerns
- Research local environmental protection initiatives

2. *Creative Response*

- Draw or describe what you might see with “dragon sight”
- Write a letter from one character to another
- Create art inspired by the northern lights scene

3. *Action Planning*

- Develop a local environmental action plan
- Research youth-led environmental organizations
- Identify ways to support environmental protection

4. *Cultural Connection*

- Research Indigenous environmental protection efforts
- Explore local traditional ecological knowledge
- Discuss different cultural approaches to nature

Recommended Reading

Books

- “Silent Spring” by Rachel Carson
- “The Lorax” by Dr. Seuss
- “Braiding Sweetgrass” by Robin Wall Kimmerer
- “How to Change Everything” by Naomi Klein
- “Flight Behavior” by Barbara Kingsolver

Films and Documentaries

- “An Inconvenient Truth”
- “Chasing Coral”
- “Princess Mononoke”
- “Youth v Gov”

Questions for Further Reflection

1. How has this book changed your view of environmental issues?
2. What responsibility do we have to future generations?
3. How can individuals make meaningful environmental change?
4. What role should young people play in environmental protection?

Practical Extensions

- Organize a community cleanup
- Start an environmental awareness campaign
- Support local environmental initiatives
- Create art about environmental issues
- Document local environmental changes