



The Memory of Forgotten Things

By Kat Zhang

Junior Tome It List Discussion Guide



Pre-reading questions:

1. Do you think people are able to see Memories of past events that they never participated in?
2. Do you believe that there are more than three dimensions within our world?
3. What would you do if you thought someone shared strange Memories like yourself?
4. Do you believe it is possible to travel to an alternative dimension and then back again?
5. If you had the opportunity, would you travel to an alternative world where things were as you wanted them to be versus the current life you lived? Why, explain.

Post-reading questions:

1. Nicole Johnson drives a flashy, red convertible in a town of minivans, pickups and practical old cars. What possible reason can you think for her doing this?
2. The three main characters-Sophia Wallace; DJ and Luke McPherson are paired up in science class for a project. What do you see as the common threads between the three that bring their relationship to ultimate friends?
3. Sophia's dad experiences depression on the loss of his wife. At times, he goes into extreme depression leaving Sophia to fend for herself. During the story, he becomes very angry over Sophia finding a letter her mom wrote. He acted as though Sophia had no right to know the contents of this letter nor should she be as affected by her loss as he. What are your thoughts?
4. Sophia becomes more interested in DJ's family because it paints the illusion she has of how her life would be if her mom was still alive. Then why do you think she never sees her dad in the "M's"?
5. Luke's father is very strict on Luke's coming and going. Why do you believe he is this way?
6. As their solar eclipse project is being worked on by the characters, Memories are found to be linked to the previous celestial event. Clues are being gathered from an odd astrophysicist and a homeless woman met on a bus. Do you believe that these two individuals were a coincidence or were they meant to come into the path of these children? Explain.
7. Sophia finds the clues at the astrophysicist's home that allow her and the two boys to get to the dimensions they seek. Sophia to the world where her mom is alive; DJ to the world where he has a great step-dad and Luke to where his younger sister is alive. Why do you think that none of them chose to stay? What was the primary reason that all three shared?
8. If leaving one world to travel to another causes the world to start attacking the foreign being, why was Mr. Scot okay when he traveled back and never returned?
9. Sophia Wallace believes that grief is neither good or bad - "it just is". What is your opinion on grief?

Post-reading Activities

1. Create a diagram of a solar eclipse, labeling each phase.
2. Write a poem from the point of view of one of the main characters of *The Memory of Forgotten Things*. Find a defining moment within the book to base your poem on. Follow the guidelines at tomesociety.com/competitions.html and enter your poem into the It List Poem competition.
3. Create a Fan Art piece that captures one of Sophie's "M's" or one of the three's world travels. Follow the guidelines and enter your work into the It List Fan Art competition.

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