



The Girl and the Witch's Garden

Erin Bowman

Tome Society It List Discussion Guide



October 2022 Book of the Month

Pre-reading questions

1. What stories exist about your hometown? Do they fascinate, bore, or terrify local children?
2. What do you think it is like to be treated as though you are invisible?
3. Did you ever have to do something that you did not want to do over your summer break? How did that experience impact you? Did you learn anything from it?

Post-reading questions

1. Think about how Piper must feel throughout the book. What would it be like if one of your parents was raising other children, but not you?
2. How would you feel about living in a luxury estate like Mallory? Could you go back to living in your normal home after living at Mallory Estate?
3. Butterflies are mentioned throughout the story. What is the meaning of butterflies? What does it mean to put them in the garden and on the door knocker?
4. Do you think the children's reaction to finding out magic is real was genuine? How would you respond if you found out magic was real?
5. Piper's dad is sick throughout the book. How does your family react when a member is sick? Are there "rules"?
6. Did you ever overhear something serious and misconstrued the meaning? Like when Piper overheard her mom and dad talk?
7. Name a time you were afraid. How did your parents or friends help you overcome that situation? Do you have any tricks to make yourself feel more courageous when you are scared?
8. If you had the chance to live forever, would you want to do that? Why or why not?
9. Have you ever lied to your friends or been lied to? How did you/them regain trust in one another?
10. Have you ever been so sad it seemed like you could never do anything again? How did you get through it?

Post-reading activities

1. If you enjoyed *The Girl in the Witch's Garden*, create a promotional flyer to hang up in your school library to convince others to give this book a try. Check out our website for more information on the It List Promotional Flyer competition and ask your advisor to submit your finished work.
2. What is your favorite room at the Mallory Estate? If you could create the perfect room and money was not an issue, what would it look like? What features would you have to have? Draw a picture of what your perfect room would look like.

More About This Book

Author's Website: <https://embowman.com/>