



The Life Fantastic

By Liza Ketchum

Tome Society It List Discussion Guide



Pre-reading questions:

1. Think about the genre Historical Fiction. Explain some characteristics of a Historical Fiction book in your own words.
2. Define Friendship and its importance in your life. How do outside influences affect your friendships?
3. What do you know about life in the early 1900's in the United States? How were different types of people treated differently?
4. Look up Vaudeville if you have not heard of it. This was a popular form of entertainment in the early 1900's. Why do you think this form of entertainment could be so popular during this time period?

Post-reading questions:

1. Do you have a passion you would like to pursue?
2. How would you feel if one of your parents did not support your dreams? What could you do to try and get their support?
3. *Spoiler Alert* What would you do if you ran away and your younger sibling followed you? How would you find your way in a new, big city with little money and not knowing where to go?
4. *Spoiler Alert* Would you go home if a loved one died and you would have to give up on the lifestyle you love? Do you think you would make friends as easily as Teresa if you were in a similar situation?
5. How would you confront a bully like Rose who thought you were beneath her?
6. What is your favorite song from the ones Teresa sang? What do you think the words mean?
7. Why do you think the author chose the song "The Life Fantastic" to name the novel?

Post-reading Activities

1. Write your own sequel chapter to the book. What happens to Teresa next? Follow the guidelines at tomesociety.org/competitions.html to enter it into the Tome Fan Fiction competition.
2. Create an It List Promotional Book Flyer for this book using elements you would find in a Vaudeville show. Follow the guidelines to enter it into the Tome competition.
3. Write a poem using some of the terminology and happenings of the time period this book takes place. Follow the guidelines to enter it into the Tome competition.

More About This Book

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