



When We Were Lost

Kevin Wignall

August Book of the Month

Tome Society It List Discussion Guide



Pre-reading questions

1. Has coincidence ever saved you from something? (Ex: you were running late but a car ran through a red light right when you would've been going through that intersection). Talk about that time.
2. Do some research on plane crashes. What did you find out about any survivors?
3. Think about the skills needed to survive in the jungle. What skills do you have that would be helpful? What skills would you need to learn to maximize your chances of survival?

Post-reading questions

1. Most of the characters in *When We Were Lost* change throughout the book the longer they have to survive in the jungle. Choose 2 or 3 characters and discuss how they changed from the beginning of the book to the end.
2. Who were your favorite and least favorite characters? Why?
3. Throughout the book there are struggles within the group of survivors about what to do and who should take the lead. Tom and Joel emerge as the leaders. What similarities and differences do you see between Tom and Joel as the book progresses?
4. Tom figures out early on that the plane is not in Costa Rica where it should have been. Once you read this, what were your predictions about how or why the plane got so off course? Compare your predictions with the answer in the epilogue.
5. Tom gives Jess a meaningful talk when she is in despair. Discuss this quote: "You lost someone you love and that never goes away. It changes who you are, the way you live your life. It never becomes good, it just becomes different." (p. 127)
6. What flaws did you recognize in Tom? How did he change as the book progressed? Did he overcome his flaws or did they help him in some way?
7. ****Spoiler alert**** Discuss Tom and the group's actions when they discovered the cocaine factory in the jungle. Did they have any other choices? What would you have done differently?

Post-reading activities

1. *When We Were Lost* would make a great, action-packed movie. Create a book trailer advertising this book. Follow the guidelines at tomesociety.org/competitions to enter your final product into the Tome book trailer competition.
2. This book is full of action-packed adventure. Create a Like-Try-Why social media post with book recommendations for readers who enjoyed *When We Were Lost*. Follow the guidelines to enter your final product into the Tome Like-Try-Why competition.

More About This Book

Author's Website: www.kevinwignall.com