## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 1**

- 1. How are Cole, Alex, and Josh different? Who do you think would be first to try something new? Which of the three boys are you most like? Why do you think the author made this comparison in the first chapter?
- 2. Do you think Cole's mom graduated from college? Explain your reasoning. How can education make your life better? How can it improve your future and the future of your loved ones?
- 3. Cole dreads playing baseball. What do you think he could do to enjoy it more? Have you ever been in a similar situation? What did you do?
- 4. Josh always looks at things differently than Cole. How would it be helpful to learn to look at life from different perspectives? Have you ever solved a difficult problem by being creative?

## **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 1**

GLIMMER
SHROUD
RAPIER
SAUNTER
BRANDISH
HALTINGLY
SNOBBISH
PHYSIQUE
KIBOSH
FUTILE

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 2**

- 1. How do you think Cole got transported to the world of Green? What would you do first if you were transported there? Would you like to discover a secret world that others don't know about?
- 2. In Chapter two, Cole meets Tridacello, Dungo, and Bowlure. Who seems to be the nicest? Would you trust any of them? Why or why not?
- 3. Bowlure said, "Why be mad when you can choose to be happy?" How can changing your attitude make a bad situation better? What can you do to be happy when life is difficult or unfair?
- 4. Tridacello got mad at Dod for something Dod couldn't even remember doing and likely hadn't done. Has anyone ever gotten mad at you for something you didn't do? How did you react? What are some good ways to respond?

### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 2**

FOLIAGE
DREADED
INTERMITTENT
CONFETTI
SCAMPER
CROUCH
SCAVENGER
ENCROACH
CONTRAPTION
WHOLEHEARTEDLY

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 3**

- 1. Even after Dungo was mean to Dod, Dod still did something nice for Dungo. What was it? What would you have done if you were Dod? Have you ever done something nice for someone who was mean to you?
- 2. Bowlure and Dungo were both very different looking than everyone else, so their appearances scared some people. As a result, how did Dungo respond to others? How about Bowlure? Have you ever felt like you didn't fit in?
- 3. Dod Sometimes senses things before they happen. In this chapter, what did he sense? Have you ever sensed trouble before it happened?
- 4. Bowlure said that he gets nervous when meeting new people. What does he do to break the ice? Do you get nervous when meeting new people? What do you do?

### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 3**

CONSCIOUS
SHRUG
ADRENALINE
ABRUPTLY
SWOON
DUTIFULLY
COLOSSAL
SHAMELESSLY
FRANTICALLY
SPLOTCHED

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 4**

- 1. In chapter four, Dod faces something scary. What was it? Have you faced something you were afraid of? What did you do?
- 2. Bowlure sacrificed something to help Dod. What was it? Can you remember times in your life when you have given up something you wanted to help someone else?
- 3. Dod asked, "What would Pap do right now?" in order to decide how to solve a problem. Is there someone you know who is a good example of solving problems well? How could you be more like that person?
- 4. Dod used something unusual as a weapon against the venoos. What was it? Can you think of a time when you've used something in a creative way?

## **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 4**

MORTAL
ENGULF
NESTLED
CLUTTER
DISTORTED
CONSIDERABLE
EXTINGUISH
INTRICATE
CIRCULATION
GRUMBLE

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 5**

- 1. Dod was saying funny things in his sleep. What was he saying? A lot of people talk in their sleep. Do you? Do you have any other unusual talents?
- 2. When Dod first meets Boot, he thinks he knows just how Boot will act based on the way Boot looks. Was he right? What things did Boot do that proved Dod was at least partially wrong? Have you ever judged someone incorrectly?
- 3. Bonboo's parents sacrificed a lot in order to preserve the legacy of technology that the Mauj people had created. How can information be a legacy? What would you say your legacy might be?
- 4. What did Dod accidentally stutter when he met Dilly? Have you ever said something you didn't mean? How did people treat you? How do you treat others when they make mistakes?

#### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 5**

RECOGNIZABLE
ANTICIPATE
ENTHUSIASM
DETAIN
MYSTICAL
EMPHATICALLY
CHANDELIER
RAMBLE
LONGEVITY
AMBASSADOR

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 6**

- 1. Dod was amused when Boot was scared. What was Boot afraid of? Why do some people find pleasure in other people's difficulties? Have you ever felt that way before?
- 2. What gift did Boot give to Dod? What did it represent? Who is your best friend and why?
- 3. Boot was able to recount the great tale of how Dod was a hero, even while mentioning his own weaknesses. Why was this "ennobling" of Boot? Can you hear wonderful things about others without feeling jealous? Do you give compliments when others have done well?
- 4. Dod didn't like it when Sawb was mean to Jim. What was Sawb teasing him about? What do you do when others are calling you or someone else names?

## **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 6**

PUNCTUATE
AMUSE
TORMENT
COCKY
ELOQUENCE
CONVICTION
SLUGGISHLY
DIPLOMACY
ORDEAL
LAUNCH

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 7**

- 1. Sawb hurt Tonnis by saying that his family would be embarrassed by the way he acted. Does it matter what your family thinks of you? Do your actions affect your family?
- 2. It was told that The Dread caused wars in Soosh without raising an army of his own. How did he do it? Can you think of a misunderstanding or false accusation that caused a fight? What's a good way to resolve issues?
- 3. Dilly said that it wouldn't be proper for her to see Zerny's bare hands because he worked the land for her family. Why do think that might be? Do you know of any traditions that we have to show respect? How do you feel when others are disrespectful?
- 4. What did Dod recognize as something Pap had made? Can you think of something special about one or more of your grandparents?

### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 7**

SELF-CONSCIOUS
CONTAGIOUS
EXUDE
DISGUISE
RUDDY
CONCLUSION
INTIMIDATE
ASSOCIATE
INTERJECT
IDENTITY

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 8**

- 1. Many of the characters in this book like to tease each other, with Boot being the king of pranks. Do you ever tease your family members or friends? When is teasing okay, and when is teasing bad? How do you feel when you're teased?
- 2. How did Dilly feel about Sirlonk? Have you ever been really jealous of someone else? How did you treat that person?
- 3. Toos said that teasing is "a sibling thing" and that "they can't help it." Sawny didn't agree. Do you get along with your brothers and sisters? How should you treat your family members?
- 4. Dilly said that her sister Sawny was like a portable library. Why? Dilly also said that she often used Sawny's information rather than needing to find it for herself. How might it be unwise to depend on others to get the facts for you?

### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 8**

MISINFORMED
MORTIFIED
CORRIDOR
CONJURE
SUPERNOVA
UNKEMPT
SABOTAGE
MAMMOTH
COMPENSATE
TRANSPORT

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 9**

- 1. Youk said that he felt sorry for political leaders. Why might he feel that way? How would it be hard to lead a large group of people?
- 2. Dilly told Youk that he would make a great Chief Noble Tredder of Green. Would you make a good leader? What qualities do good leaders have? Can you think of any examples of people who were extraordinary leaders?
- 3. How did Sirlonk treat Dod when they first met? What changed Sirlonk's opinion of Dod? Do you treat people differently based on what other people say about them?
- 4. Boot thought Dod had a super special skill. What was it? How did Boot want Dod to use his skill? If you were sometimes psychic, what kinds of things would you do with your ability?

### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 9**

HESITANTLY
PUPIL
TRIFLE
COMELY
GOOSEBUMPS
REVERT
REFINED
ARROGANTLY
PERIMETER
INSIGNIA

### **Discussion Questions for Chapter 10**

- 1. What was different about Buck's glowing stone? Why was it that way? Are you the type of person who likes to read and follow instructions, or do you like to jump in and try your own way? Which method has a better result?
- 2. Dod, Dilly, Sawny, Boot, and Buck bent Twistyard's rules by wandering around at night after curfew. How else did they break the rules? Is it ever okay to break rules? Why do we have rules?
- 3. How did Sawny and Buck feel about chasing after people in the dark? What did they do? Have you ever done something you weren't comfortable with just because everyone else was doing it? What could you say to your friends if they wanted you to do something you felt was wrong?
- 4. Dod used his creativity to solve a difficult problem and save the lives of his friends. What did he do? What can you learn from his example?

#### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 10**

UNANIMOUSLY
INTRICATE
APPARENT
NUDGE
FIDGET
CONSTELLATION
ALLEGIANCE
OUTCROPPING
SUSPICIOUS
OOZE

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 11**

- 1. After skipping several meals, Dod said his food tasted like Christmas Dinner at Aunt Hilda's house. What did he mean? Why do things seem so much better when we've gone without them for a while? What happens if we always get what we want, when we want it?
- 2. Why didn't people notice that Dod and Dilly were napping all day? Who do you think caused the trouble? Is it okay to do bad things if you have good reasons? Explain.
- 3. Bonboo said that Pap fought with the strength of a lion and yet still lived as gently as a man. What could this mean? If you are a strong, tough person, is it a weakness to show kindness? Can you be both tough and kind at the same time?
- 4. Bonboo told Dod that Pap had said "I haven't felt this good since yesterday." What can you tell about Pap's personality from this statement? How can your attitude make a difference in your life?

#### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 11**

FLAUNTINGLY
TRANCE
CLASPING
AUTOMATICALLY
UNABASHEDLY
MISFORTUNE
OBVIOUSLY
SPUTTER
DISCERN
BEWILDER

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 12**

- 1. Dod was very excited to read his grandpa's journals, and he was upset when he found them missing. Why did he care so much about them? Do you have journals from your parents or grandparents? Why are journals important? Are you writing a journal?
- 2. Dilly pointed out that drats outnumbered tredders in Green, but tredders still held the political leadership positions. What is discrimination? What examples of discrimination can you think of? How can we avoid discrimination?
- 3. While telling about Dod's courageous acts that stopped the attackers, Dilly said, "He's definitely Pap's grandson!" Has anyone ever said that you act just like your mom, dad, or grandparent? Was it a good thing or a bad thing? What qualities do you want to gain from your parents or grandparents?
- 4. Why didn't Dilly believe Dod and Boot about Pap's stuff? What makes a person trustworthy? Are you trustworthy?

### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 12**

APPAREL
LAPEL
TRIUMPHANTLY
SCABBARD
IMPERCEPTIBLE
CONDESCENDINGLY
INSTINCTIVELY
FEROCIOUSLY
LABYRINTH
CLARITY

### **Discussion Questions for Chapter 13**

- 1. Dod asked his friends if they could keep a secret. What did he tell them? Have you ever been asked to keep a secret? When are secrets bad and when are secrets good? Explain.
- 2. Why did Dilly get mad at Dod? She seemed to care more about the keys than she did about Dod. Have you ever had a similar experience where you've been more concerned about a thing than a person? Even though we get upset when others lose or destroy our things, which is more important—people or things?
- 3. How did Boot feel about Jibb? Why won't Boot forgive him? Have you ever had a hard time forgiving someone? Have you ever wished for forgiveness from someone else?
- 4. How did Dod feel about being on the Green Coosing Bollirse team? What made him feel bad? Have you ever been chosen over another when someone else deserved it more? How did you feel?

### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 13**

AWKWARDLY
RENDEZVOUS
SKIM
SQUABBLE
BLEARILY
COMMISSIONED
COGNIZANT
UNDISCLOSED
MURKY
ENLIST

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 14**

- 1. In chapter 14, Boot says that it would have been a tragedy if Shooter had lived out his life lazily roaming through fields instead of doing hard things. What possible tragedies are around us today? How would it be a tragedy if kids skip class regularly to have fun with their friends? Or if they don't graduate from high school? Or if they don't go to college? Or if they spend all of their time playing video games?
- 2. Dod didn't feel comfortable riding Brown Sugar up Coyote Trail. Why? Have you ever agreed to do something that you knew might be too hard or dangerous? What did you do?
- 3. Strat stood up for others when Sirlonk was being unkind. How do you feel about Strat? How do you feel about Sirlonk? How do you think others feel about you when you are gossiping or saying unkind things about someone else?
- 4. Sirlonk and Juny didn't have to follow the rules when entering High Gate. Why do you think they didn't? Should people with some authority be exempt from the rules that the rest of us have to follow?

## **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 14**

DEGRADE
INCOMPETENCE
FORMIDABLE
EXCESSIVELY
MANAGEABLE
SPECTACLE
PLATEAU
OUTRAGED
NOTION
BLIGHT

### **Discussion Questions for Chapter 15**

- 1. Dilly spoke about Green's democracy and said, "It's the best in all of us, the grand dream, the lingering hope of what my family trusts can one day become everyone's inheritance." What did she mean? How do you feel about the freedoms you enjoy from our democracy? How would it be to be living without our freedoms (as so many people around the world are)?
- 2. Dilly and the others felt great pride while looking at their homelands' poles. How do you feel when you look at our American flag?
- 3. Why was it important to Dod that he make it clear to Commendus that Pap didn't drink alcohol? Do you have special standards that your family lives by? Have you ever had to stand up for them?
- 4. What did Boot give to Dod? Where did it come from? How do you feel about Boot? Have you ever done something similar?

### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 15**

CRAFTSMANSHIP
AWESTRUCK
METROPOLIS
NEXUS
DRASTIC
BIZARRE
VEGETATION
PERIMETER
PROLONG
ADORN

### **Discussion Questions for Chapter 16**

- 1. What was everyone looking forward to? Do you remember really looking forward to something? Did it turn out to be as good as you had imagined? Why do some people say that waiting is the best part?
- 2. There was a heavy rivalry between which two teams? Is competition a good thing? When does rivalry cross the line and become a bad thing?
- 3. Dod's team chanted, "With Dod on our side, we'll break their pride!" How did Dod feel about the attention? Do you like a lot of attention? What are some good ways to get attention?
- 4. Dod quoted one of the movies he had seen. What was the line? Do you have a favorite line from a movie? What amuses you about that particular line? Would you ever say something like that in a regular setting?

### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 16**

AMMUNITION
RATIONALIZE
FOREMOST
PROTRUDE
EAVESDROP
UNPRECEDENTED
DISCONCERTINGLY
DISASTROUS
ULTIMATELY
PRUDENT

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 17**

- 1. In the book, it's written that Dilly counted to a hundred million in an attempt to control her venomous outbursts. Have you ever gotten really mad? What did you do to control your anger?
- 2. Youk was noticeably upset that his wife had been gone for so long. Have you ever had one of your parents live far away from you? How did you feel? Do you tell your parents 'thank you' for the things that they do for you?
- 3. What did Dod ask Dilly to teach him? How do you feel about asking for help? Have you ever had an experience where you didn't ask for help when you needed it? What happened?
- 4. Dod felt that the dimming light of death brought a brightening recollection of life. What do you think that means? Do you think a near death experience would change your perspective on life? How? What would you do differently if you only had one more year to live?

#### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 17**

ENGAGEMENT
PREPOSTEROUS
ARISTOCRAT
MELANCHOLY
TENTATIVELY
TECHNIQUE
PUNCTUAL
DIGNIFIED
ENTICE
BRUTISHLY

### **Discussion Questions for Chapter 18**

- 1. Dod was put in the middle of an argument between Dilly and Sawny. What was the disagreement about? Have you ever been in a situation like Dod's? Did you pick a side, or did you get out of the middle like Dod did? What does it mean to stir the pot? Are you a peacemaker?
- 2. Sirlonk said, "I plan on being careful by being prepared!" What did he mean? Do you like to leave things to the last minute, or do you prepare in advance? How do you feel when you've procrastinated?
- 3. Dilly was asked to make a serious decision that would affect many people. Sawb told her, "Don't be a coward, Dilly." What did Dilly do? Has anyone ever dared you to do something? Were you called a coward? What can you do to get out of dares?
- 4. In this chapter, who comes up with the successful way to stop Twistyard's pest problem? How can knowledge you learn today help you in the future?

#### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 18**

ENCAMPMENT
ARRANGEMENT
PREDICTABLY
INFESTATION
TAUNTINGLY
TACTICAL
PENDING
OVERPOWERING
STATESMAN
INTEGRITY

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 19**

- 1. How do you feel about what Dilly did for Dod? Do you know of someone who would stick up for you? Would you do something like that for someone else?
- 2. How do you feel about what Sawb did to Dilly? Do his actions make him look good to others? What about his treatment of his friends? Is he strengthening friendships or alienating himself?
- 3. What did Dod do to Sawb? Were his actions right or wrong? What would you have done? Do you think your parents would agree or disagree with your choice?
- 4. Sirlonk said, "Youk made us promise, and that means something to me." Did he keep his promise? Is it ever okay to break a promise? If someone made you promise to not tell your parents something, what would you do? Should you ever keep secrets from your parents?

### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 19**

BONANZA
OUTSKIRTS
SPORTSMANSHIP
INTERVENTION
IMMINENT
INFURIATING
TENDERIZE
ATMOSPHERE
DISMANTLE
CONSTRAIN

### **Discussion Questions for Chapter 20**

- 1. Who were Boot and Dod upset about? Have you ever had a loved one die? What do you do to remember that person?
- 2. The people in Lower Janice made rock piles on their porches in remembrance of their loved one who had died. Do we have any customs of remembering or honoring those who have died?
- 3. Boot chanted the word 'jungo.' What do you think jungo means? Have you ever felt like revenge was necessary? Does revenge make you feel better? Does it make things right? What could someone do instead?
- 4. Dod read the quote, "You never know what junk from your pockets will become treasures." What do you think that means? Can you think of an example? What junk from Dod's pocket became treasures?

### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 20**

NOTWITHSTANDING
BEWILDERMENT
CANOPY
CACHE
DISPROPORTIONATELY
INTERROGATE
VAGUELY
DISORDERLY
ENCOUNTER
BURGUNDY

### **Discussion Questions for Chapter 21**

- 1. Dod told his friends that he had heard the phrase, "Keep your friends close and your enemies closer." What does that mean? Do you agree? How could that practice be good or bad?
- 2. In Green, they believe a man's word is good, foe or friend. Do we follow that rule in our world? What if we did? Did The Dread follow the rule? How can you tell if someone is telling the truth?
- 3. Buck explained that The Dread's word wasn't worth much. What is your word worth? What does 'integrity' mean? Do you know of anyone who always does exactly as she or he says?
- 4. What did Dod find on the dock? Do you think it's good or bad? Are you good at noticing clues around you? What does the word 'observant' mean?

### **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 21**

SPONTANEOUSLY
EMBROIDERED
LOGGERHEAD
IMPERIOUSLY
PRECEDENCE
CONTRABAND
CATACOMB
SCRUTINY
DAPPER
FRAYING

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 22**

- 1. Dod had to run and get help when he found out that someone was trapped inside the rubble. When we are asking others to help us in an emergency situation, especially if we need to call 911, what are some things to remember? What happens if we can't stay calm? When is it okay to call 911?
- 2. Who thought that Dod had caused the cave in? Have you ever been accused of something you didn't do? Why would others accuse you? How could you avoid situations where people mistakenly think you have caused trouble?
- 3. Dod remembered something that had happened at school which made him nervous to dong the emergency bell. What was it? What happens if someone deliberately sets off the fire alarm when there is not a fire? Why is it a serious offense?
- 4. Dod had to find courage to do many things in this chapter. Can you name some of them? Have you ever had to do something that took a lot of courage? What gives you courage?

## **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 22**

DUMBFOUNDED
BACKDROP
DEBRIS
STOCKPILE
PENSIVELY
FAMISHED
DISLODGE
CAREEN
ON THE FLY
CRITIQUE

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 23**

- 1. What did Sawny give Dod as a good luck charm? Did it bring him good luck? Do you have any good luck charms? How might a positive attitude be a lot like a good luck charm?
- 2. What words did Dod use to insult The Dread? Dod doesn't use curse words. Why might people respect those who don't use curse words?
- 3. Dod found power by thinking of his mother, aunt, brothers, and grandfather. How do you feel about your family? Is there someone in your family who you'd like to treat better?
- 4. How did The Dread feel about his family? What do his negative feelings say about his personality? Do you think he's happy?

## **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 23**

PREDICAMENT
AMBIANCE
CUMMERBUND
BOISTEROUSLY
HOMOGENOUS
CONVULSION
FACILITATE
PESSIMISM
DEBONAIR
POSH

## **Discussion Questions for Chapter 24**

- 1. In this book and in life, some people like to build others up, while some people like to tear others down. Which one is Bonboo? Sawb? Boot? Bowlure? Sirlonk? Dilly? The others? Can you think of examples from the book that support your answers? Can you think of people in the real world who build others up? Which kind of person would you like to be? Why?
- 2. What did Dod do for The Dread? Why? Would you have done what Dod did? Why or why not?
- 3. The Dread said that everyone has a price. What does that mean? Do you think you have a price? What would you be willing to do to save someone you love?
- 4. What gift was Dod given? What would he have liked even better? If you could be given anything as a gift, what would it be?

## **Vocabulary Words for Chapter 24**

ALBEIT
IRKSOME
INCAPACITATED
APPREHEND
LACERATION
MESMERIZE
BEDRAGGLED
ARDUOUSLY
TOUSLED
JADED