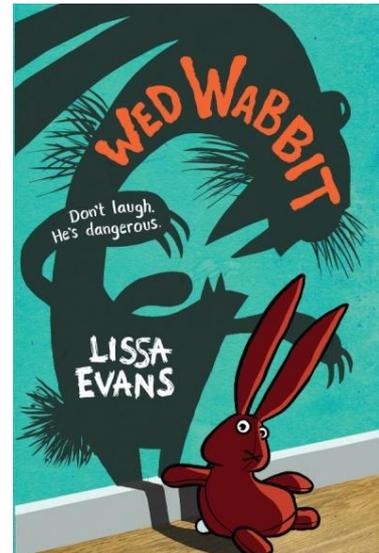


2018 Carnegie Medal shortlist Talking Points

Title: **WED WABBIT**

Author: **Lissa Evans**

Publisher: **David Fickling Books**



THE READING EXPERIENCE

What did you first expect from the title, “Wed Wabbit”?

There’s an illustrated map of Wimbley Woo at the start of the book – did you keep coming back to it while you read the story? What did it add to your experience?

This is the first sentence: “It was such an ordinary evening, but every detail of it would matter; every detail would become *vital*.” Did that make you curious to read on?

The presentation of the book has involved playing with a range of fonts – what effect does this have on how you read it?

One review of this book, in *The Times*, says that the book’s ending “gives the reader an almighty hug.” What do you think the reviewer meant by that?

FIDGE

Is Fidge a typical ten-year-old? How is she different in character from, say, her mum?

Graham says he thinks Fidge is “emotionally stunted” – if he’s right, why might she have trouble expressing her emotions?

What does Fidge learn about herself over the course of her journey?

OTHER PEOPLE

Do we feel the same way about spoilt cousin Graham as Fidge does?

Has Graham also changed in some way by the end of the book?

Even we don’t see much of Minnie between the start of the book and the end, what have we learned about her along the way?



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Does the friendship between spoiled grumpy Graham and tense, sensible Fidge remind you of any other relationships in other books you've read?

THE NON-HUMANS

How do the characters of Ella and Dr Carrot complement one another in the story?

Does the author make the non-human characters (Ella, Dr Carrot, Wed Wabbit, the Wimbleys) rounded, complex, three-dimensional characters like the people, or are they more simply drawn? (Can you give an example?)

Though most of the book is set in Wimbley Woo, it begins and ends in our (real) world. How does the author introduce us to these two worlds differently? What happens when Fidge tries to behave like a sensible, logical, real-world person in a not-at-all-sensible world?

THE WORLD OF WIMBLEY WOO

Why does the author make all the multicoloured Wimbleys speak in rhyme? How seriously are we supposed to take them when they're speaking?

What is the significance of the world of Wimbley Woo losing its colour?

Many reviews have talked about how "original" this book is – but what is it, do you think, that makes it different from anything you've read before?

LIGHT & DARK

The book is both funny/entertaining and scary/exciting, often at the same time – do you like the way the author has mixed these moods together?

There are many books exploring how their heroes cope with being away from the safety of "home", and about how they try to find their way back home; how does that apply to *Wed Wabbit*?

In addition to the adventure plot and the humour (and the riddles!), the book touches on some darker themes, too. (Fidge's grief, Graham's anxiety, etc.) Does it have lessons to teach us about life?

AND FINALLY...

Does this Carnegie-shortlisted book deserve to win? Why, or why not?



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