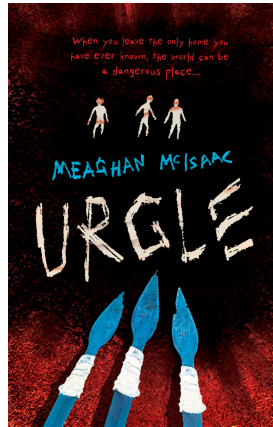




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URGLE READING GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE



1. The Tunrar Goblins are servants of the Beginning. They are not just predators – they *believe* in something. How did this affect the way you felt about them? Does it make them more frightening? Less frightening? Smart? Stupid? Evil? Sympathetic?
2. At the start of the story, Urgle and Fiver appear to be more enemies than friends. Why do Fiver and Urgle stick together throughout the entire story even though they seem to hate each other?
3. When we first meet Urgle, he is ‘useless.’ He can’t hunt, he’s moody, and he has a bad temper. How does Urgle grow through the story? Was there a specific moment that stands out where you felt Urgle had changed?
4. For a hero, Urgle is kind of a screw up. How does he compare to some of your other favourite heroes from YA and MG? Was his ‘uselessness’ frustrating or refreshing?
5. What if the Tunrar had stolen Av’s Little Brother, Goobs. How would the story change?
6. Women start off as ‘monsters’. How did you feel about the portrayal of the Mothers, and how they preferred their daughters over their sons?
7. Both Blaze and Lussit explain that there are different versions of the Ardigund story. What are the differences between the way the Belphoebans tell the story and the Beginners? How do those differences influence each side? Can you think of any other examples of how differing opinions have caused conflict throughout history? In the media?