

THE UNINVITED

BY ROSS MACKENZIE

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Spend some time exploring the beautiful front cover by Sara Söderlund. What can you see? What do you notice? Can you make any predictions about the story? What does it mean to be 'uninvited'? Now read the blurb. Were your predictions correct?

Alistair is described as having an 'overactive imagination' (page 13). What does this mean? Why does his mum dismiss his idea about magic?

Describe Alistair in three words and explain your word choices. What role do you predict he will have in the rest of the story?

The Uninvited sees the Faerae people living as refugees in our world, summarise the arguments for and against the people of Faerae being moved and kept in a camp, using a simple table to explore both sides of the issue.

Samm has 2 objects in the story; spend some time exploring two words: 'Lightbinder' and 'Divinoscope'. Do the names give you any clues about what these special objects do? Think carefully about your knowledge of prefixes and suffixes! What does it mean if you 'bind' something? What is a 'telescope'? What does 'scope' mean? (page 44)

How does the theme of POWER play out in the story? Who has power? Who wants power? Is Samm powerful or powerless? How do people hold onto their power? (page 56)

We've hear a lot about Joe Lively early in the story but only meet him on page 64. Why might this be? What impact does it have? Were you surprised by the description of him?

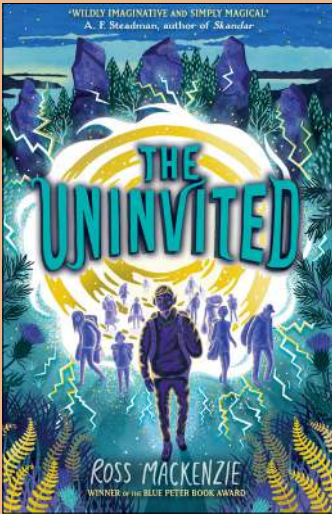
Joe Lively's powers are likened to a 'dark spider'. What might this mean? Why a spider? What image does it create in your mind? (page 65)

'If you can hear people's thoughts, it is easy to tell them what they wish to hear.' What does this mean? How has Joe's mind magic helped him gain influence and power? (page 111)

Discuss the theme of DISGUISE. Are any characters moving around the world in disguise? Are any characters trying to hide their true selves? (page 190)

Create Character Profiles for Samm, Ally, Brogan, Pendergast, the bird girl, Joe Lively, Clementine and any other characters you have enjoyed getting to know! Your character Profiles should include a picture and a description of each character - consider the character's personalities, their relationships with others, and what motivates them.

'This is a really special book. A rare combination of wildly imaginative and deeply thought-provoking. Simply magical' - A.F. Steadman



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'Ross MacKenzie is a wizard with words'

M.G. Leonard

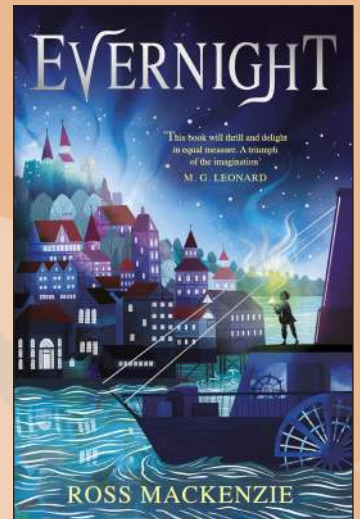
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