

Discussion Questions

Operatic

By Kyo Maclear, Illustrated by Byron Eggenschwiler

Gather 3 or more people who have read *Operatic* to discuss the book. Briefly summarize the book to remind everyone about the details (some of you may have read it a while ago!) Use the questions below to help keep the discussion going:

1. Who was your favourite character in the book? Why?
2. What scenes in the book felt the most realistic to you? Why?
3. When Charlie tells the reader about Luka, she says, "Being a nobody is better than being singled out." Do you agree with this perspective? Why or why not?
4. The book is vague sometimes, letting the reader interpret situations and relationships for themselves. Why do you think Luka stopped coming to school? What made him come back?
5. Mr. Kerner believes that everyone has their own perfect song for them. Talk about the songs that speak to you, that bring you back to a special time in your life no matter where you are when you hear it again.
6. One way Mr. K helps his students find their 'perfect song' is through exposing them to different kinds of music. Charlie is surprised when the music that speaks to her is opera. Describe a time when you've heard a song or type of music that you didn't think you would like but then discovered you did. Is there any song or type of music people would be surprised to hear that you like?
7. *Operatic* ends with Charlie and her friends leaving middle school for the summer before starting high school. If you could write a follow-up chapter, what would you have happen?