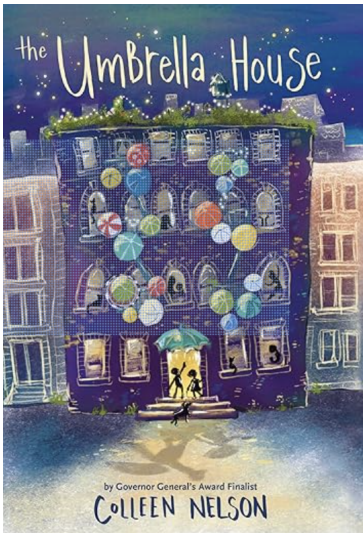


Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## The Umbrella House Discussion Questions

1. Do you think it is important that journalists include stories about children?
2. Street art is found in many places (i.e., bridges, subway trains, building walls) all over the world. What do you think of street art? Cities around the world have street art tours. Would you like to go on one?
3. On page 18, Roxy said she connected with Evelyn because she had been raised by her grandparents and Evelyn “credited them with giving her the guts to follow her dreams”. What does it mean to have the guts to follow your dreams?
4. What do you dream of doing now and in the future?
5. When Roxy found the sketch book and started to flip through the pages, did you ever think that perhaps her father could be the Midnight Muralist? What did you think when Roxy eventually found out who the Midnight Muralist was?
6. When Evelyn said “getting to the truth is a messy journey” what did she mean?
7. Would you have felt the same way Roxy did when Scott told her that if he is accepted into the photography camp he would be away for six weeks and that Roxy would be on her on for the summer?
8. What would you say to Scott to encourage him to take a chance and apply to the photography camp? Do you think it is important to take chances and do something different? If yes, why? If no, why?
9. The squatters at The Umbrella House struggled for a long time yet they were determined to figure out a way to live in the building. Can you think of other books with themes of adversity or struggle?
10. When the emergency meeting was called and the Umbrella House residents learned that City Council planned to end the co-op what did you feel?
11. Roxy’s words at the City Council meeting were so powerful. “Community has the word unity in it for a reason.” What does this mean? Would you want to speak in front of your City Council about an issue that was very near to your heart?
12. Were you surprised that Evelyn Pauls chose the submission titled ‘We Have to Gentrify to Beautify’? What about the submission ‘Roll With Me’?

13. Do you agree with this statement - "although Scott and Roxy did not win they did not lose". If yes, why do you agree and if no, why do think Scott and Roxy did lose?

14. Scott's note ended with a powerful message from Evelyn Pauls. She said 'my failures didn't define me, they inspired me.' Why should we see our setbacks as opportunities?

15. The Umbrella House lives on and it is because of a group of concerned individuals who fought for their rights. They battled people, companies and government official who more resources then they had. But it was their determination to ensure that their community was able to survive (and continue thriving) that was impressive. Can you think of issues that you would like to support and protect? What would you do to help people or animals or the environment feel protected and respected?