



Virtual Hooked on Books

The Illuminated Adventures of Flora & Ulysses by Kate DiCamillo

Discussion Questions Part 2: Chapters 24-44

You can try these questions at home.

Join library staff on Zoom for book chats and fun: July 27th & August 31st
at 7:00! Sign up for free through Eventbrite on our website!

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/hooked-on-books-registration-113795908626>

1. Flora says she has her own thoughts about “the random and confusing nature of the universe” and she doesn’t want William Spiver’s thoughts about it as well. Why doesn’t Flora want additional thoughts about the universe?
2. Do you think Flora has been affected by her parents’ divorce? What are some of the ways she shows how it has affected her?
3. Why does Flora keep remembering pieces of advice from “Terrible Things Can Happen to You”? Is the information she remembers good advice or not?
4. What does it mean to Flora when her father says he won’t hurt Ulysses and won’t let him die? How does that make her feel?
5. Dr. Meecham says her husband has “passed away” and then changes her words and says he is dead. She says “passed away” is a euphemism and humans use them to make difficult things more pleasing. Why do people use euphemisms? Should they?
6. Flora is horrified by the ugly painting of the giant squid and she thinks the squid is terrible, but Dr. Meecham feels great sympathy for the squid and says it is lonely. Are there always two sides to every story? Why is it important to look at a situation from multiple points of view?
7. Dr. Meesham says cynics are people who are “afraid to believe” and that she would rather “choose to believe” because “there is much more beauty in the world if she chooses to believe”. What do you think Dr. Meesham means by this?

