



Reader Discussion Questions (Grades 4-6)

All the Impossible Things by Lindsay Lackey

1. Red's emotions affect the weather around her, making things stormy when she's upset. Have you ever felt big emotions like Red's? What did you feel and why? How did you respond when you felt that way?
2. Red is in foster care, which means she has to live with families that are not her own. Have you ever known someone who was in foster care? How do you think you would feel if you were in Red's situation? What kind of friend would you want to have if you were like Red?
3. Tuck Everlasting is a 400-pound tortoise that lives at the home of Celine and Jackson Groove, Red's newest foster family. Red feels a special bond with Tuck. Why do you think Red connects so well with Tuck? Have you ever felt a special friendship with an animal?
4. When Red first meets Marvin Kapule, her neighbor and classmate, she is not very nice to him. What do you think Red was feeling when they first met? How does Red behave toward Marvin during their class party? Why do you think she does this?
5. Marvin's family is very different than Red's experience of a family. Have you ever met someone who has lived a very different life than you? What do you think Red learns about family from Marvin and his parents?

6. When Red learns that her mother was released from prison early, she's very upset. Why do you think this news made her feel this way? How would you feel if you were in Red's situation?

7. After a storm that is caused by Red's big emotions, her friend Tuck Everlasting goes missing. How do you think Red feels about this? Have you ever done something when you were upset that hurt somebody else in some way? How did that make you feel? What did you do to try and fix things?

8. Red's mother, Wanda, struggles with an addiction to pills that makes it very hard for her to take care of Red. How did it make you feel to read about their relationship? What would you do if you were in Red's situation?

9. When Red first meets Jackson's daughter, Nicole, she is nervous that Nicole won't like her. Have you ever been nervous about meeting new people? Why do you think Red is worried Nicole won't want to be her sister? Do you think there is something Red could have done differently so that she didn't feel so nervous?

10. Red learns that "love can do impossible things." Do you think this is true? What things feel impossible to Red in the story? How does love help her do these impossible things? What things in your own life feel impossible? How can you overcome all these impossible things?

