

# **Wuftoom**

## **Discussion Questions**

**For more information, or to set up a school visit (in person or via Skype), please contact Mary G. Thompson at [mary@marygthompson.com](mailto:mary@marygthompson.com).**

1. At the beginning of the book, Evan is the only one who knows that he is turning into a disgusting creature. Why do you think he doesn't tell his mother or Dr. Allen what is happening? Knowing what happens in the rest of the book, what do you think Evan should have done?
2. What was Evan like before he got sick? How has Evan changed between getting sick and the beginning of the book? How do you think you would change if this happened to you?
3. Why is Evan scared by the Wuftoom who visits him? What is it about Wuftoom that are disgusting or frightening? How and why does this change after Evan's transformation?
4. The Vitfly Foul visits Evan and offers him the ability to possess other kids in exchange for agreeing to help the Vitflies destroy the Wuftoom. Do you think Evan should have made this bargain? Why or why not?
5. When the Wuftoom Olen finds out about the bargain, he demands that Evan walk other kids into the pit of Wuftoom goo. Evan knows that what he's doing is wrong, but he leads Jordan to the pit anyway. Does Evan's last-ditch effort to stop Jordan from falling into the pit relieve Evan of responsibility? How much is Jordan's fate Evan's fault? How much is it the fault of the Wuftoom? Of the Vitflies? What could Evan have done differently?
6. Is Evan being mean or immoral while he's possessing Jordan (apart from leading Jordan to the pit)? Why do you think Evan behaves the way he does?
7. When Evan turns into a Wuftoom, he realizes that he can move again, he's no longer in pain, and his vision and hearing are much better. Do you think Evan is better off after having finished his transformation? Or if it were you, would you rather be sick in bed than become a Wuftoom?
8. Why does Evan decide to go with Olen after he turns into a Wuftoom? What other options did Evan have? What would you have done in his situation?
9. Wuftoom live to be hundreds of years old. Do think this is a benefit of being a Wuftoom? If you had the chance to live an extra-long life, would you give up being human? Why or why not?
10. As Evan gets to know the Wuftoom, he begins to make friends and to feel as if the Wuftoom are his clan. How does this make Evan's situation harder?

11. Evan also has cravings for the creatures that Wuftoom eat. Do you think Evan is wrong to give in to those cravings because the creatures can talk? What would you have done in his situation?
12. Evan feels guilty about having helped turn Jordan into a Wuftoom, and he is horrified to see that Jordan has forgotten who he used to be. But Evan also has moments of wishing that he was more like Jordan. Why does Evan feel this way? Do you think Evan is better off than Jordan?
13. Evan decides not to tell the Wuftoom about how the Vitflys are talking to him in his mind, or about how the Vitflys have threatened his mother. Instead, he decides to force Olen to help him. Why does Evan do this? Do you think Evan makes the right choice?
14. At the beginning of the book, Evan finds Olen terrifying and disgusting. How does Evan's opinion of Olen change over the course of the book? Do you think Olen is a good person?
15. Who does Tret become in relation to Evan as the book progresses? Is he like a brother? A friend? A mentor? How does Tret feel when he learns Evan's secret? Why?
16. When the Vitflys attack the Wuftoom, Evan survives against great odds. Do you think this was a coincidence? Why might the Vitflys want to leave Evan alive? Why might they want Evan dead?
17. Even though Evan has kept secrets, has led Olen to his death, and may have even hurt the Wuftoom's chances in the battle, the Wuftoom still forgive Evan and consider Evan part of the clan. Why do the Wuftoom feel this way? Do you think the Wuftoom do the right thing?
18. At the end of the book, Jordan/Rutgi still does not remember who he used to be. Instead, he's happy to be a Wuftoom. If there were a cure, do you think it would be morally right to force Rutgi to take it? Or would it be morally wrong *not* to force him?
19. Who do you think won the battle? What do you think the Vitflys will do next? What do you think the Wuftoom will do?
20. Why does Evan decide to go with the Wuftoom instead of staying with his mother? Do you think you would make the same decision?