

The Eyes & The Impossible

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Please purchase a one subject notebook to collect your answers and journal entries about our reading. Write your answers to each question and use as much detail as you can.
Enjoy! I love this book

PRE - READING

1. Defining what freedom means to you:
 - When you hear the word freedom, what words come to mind?
 - What does it feel like to be free?
 - What are the benefits of freedom?
 - Now consider the opposite. What words are antonyms for freedom?
 - What does it feel like not to be free?
 - What are some challenges to freedom?
2. In this book you will come across the term “Keeper of the Equilibrium.” The word equilibrium means balance, stability, steadiness.
 - Do you know anyone who exhibits these qualities?
 - Who is a “Keeper of Equilibrium” in your life, and how do they help keep things steady?
3. Making predictions: Examine the cover of the book.
 - What do you notice?
 - What do you think the title “The Eyes & The Impossible” might mean?
 - What do you think this book will be about?

AS YOU READ

1. As you read, you will begin to meet new characters in the book.
Create a “Characters” section in your notebook with these different animals:
dog, raccoon, bison, seagull, duck, goat, pelican, coyote.
 - Be sure to leave space in between characters so we can add information about them as we learn about them in the book.
 - When you meet each of these characters, or learn more information about them, jot that information down in this section of your notebook.
 - What’s their name? Are there any physical features about them that are mentioned? Do they have any particular or unique behaviors?

2. As you read, you may encounter some unfamiliar vocabulary. The author uses these words to tell a vibrant, richly descriptive story.

- At the top of a new page in your reader's notebook, write "New Words."
- As you come across any unfamiliar or interesting words, jot them down in your notebook, along with the corresponding page number.
- If the context (the sentence or words surrounding a new word) helps you make a smart guess about the definition, write it next to the word.

Use this opportunity to expand your vocabulary and appreciate the author's belief in your ability to discover, enjoy, and learn sophisticated vocabulary.

3. One of my favorite aspects of the book is Johannes bragging about how fast he is. He is also quite masterful when describing this ability. He never says he simply ran. Instead, he treats the reader to visual, sometimes poetic descriptions of his speed ("You have never seen speed like mine. When I run I pull at the earth and make it turn." p. 12).

- Make a list of the many ways Johannes describes his speed and his skill.

4. Let's revisit the concept of freedom.

- What does freedom mean in this book?
- How and where does Johannes describe the feeling of being free?
- Is there any reference to lack of freedom? What words are used to describe this?
- What are some challenges to freedom in *The Eyes & the Impossible*?
- How has your understanding of freedom (or lack of freedom) changed or expanded?

5. This book features some important and serious topics, such as loyalty, the value of friendship, remaining committed to a plan, and the fear of being leashed or caged. But the author also uses a lot of humor.

Find some humorous places in this book. Write down the quote and page number.

What makes them funny? What do you think was the purpose of the humor?

Choose one specific incident or scene that was humorous.

POST READING

As you finish the reading, I want you to reflect on the book.

- What did you like and what did you dislike?
- What did you wish you knew more about?
- Would you suggest this book to a friend?