

S H R U G G I N G

Book Club Readers Guide & Discussion Topics

NOTE:

The following page is an optional guide for readers who like to have a notion of what to look out for in the narrative. This is optional and in no way necessary to understand or enjoy the novel.

The Book Club organizer should share this link or print out this page to make available to readers if they would like it.

No part of the story is spoiled on the proceeding page.

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READER'S GUIDE

Some readers prefer to have some helpful callouts before reading. The below Reader's Guide presents a few questions and suggestions for the reader to think about as they read the novel. It is the individual's prerogative if they want to reference this before reading.

WHAT IS MAGICAL REALISM?

Writers.com explains it best:

"In short, 'magical realism' describes a work of fiction where fantasy slips into everyday life. However, the focus isn't on the fantastical elements of the story, so much as on what those elements mean for the characters. Fantasy often acts as an extended metaphor, externalizing some sort of internal conflict or moral quandary in the protagonist's life."

WHILE READING:

- 1) How is Time represented in the novel?
 - a. How does Jack relate to concepts of past, present and future?
 - b. How does water imagery play in to the concepts of time?
- 2) What factor does Mass play in the novel?
 - a. Does size and weight have significance in the novel?
 - b. How does water imagery play in to the concepts of time?
- 3) What are the main opposing forces represented in Jack's "episodes"?
 - a. How does Jack's rules and routine play into this?