

THE BOY WHO *SAVED* a BEAR

Discussion Questions

WARNING!
SPOILERS
AHEAD!

- Nuwan decided to do Krish's delivery to the King's City so he could "prove to his parents, and everyone else, that he was as capable as his brother". (p.5) Why do you think Nuwan feels like this?
- What do you think are the most important ingredients in a thrilling adventure story? Make a list together either in pairs or as a group using *The Boy Who Saved a Bear* as inspiration.
- When Nuwan meets Karadi for the first time he is terrified! "All he could focus on was the fat, pointed nose and fierce bear face under bushy round ears. Even against his will, his eyes travelled to her claws." (p.36) What features make Karadi the bear so scary in your opinion?
- As the story develops, Nuwan gains Karadi's trust and says he feels "responsible for her safety". (p.89) Do you think humans should care about wild animals? What threats does Karadi face in the book? Discuss in a group the reasons why we need to protect animals and how we can help them.
- Sani joins Nuwan on part of his journey to the King's City. What qualities make Sani a good friend?
- Towards the end of the book Nuwan realises that he's the one who has been comparing himself to his older brother Krish, not his parents. Sani reminds him, "What you need is some self-belief. Don't compare yourself to anyone. You are you and you can do this." (p.129) What advice would you offer to a friend who keeps comparing themselves to someone else?
- Nuwan explores a lot of the island of Serendib. How would you describe the island? What were your favourite parts? Would you like to visit it?
- When Nuwan returns the key at the end of the book the Queen says, "You have done something very brave and selfless." (p.184) Can you describe what bravery is? Discuss moments in the book where Nuwan is brave and if any moments surprised you.
- How did you feel at the end of the book?



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a
BEAR
NIZRANA FAROOK