



Discussion Questions for *Guardians of Ga'Hoole: The Capture* by Kathryn Lasky

Pushed from his family's nest by his older brother, barn owl Soren is rescued from certain death on the forest floor by agents from St. Aggie's, a mysterious school for orphaned owls. With new friend, clever and scrappy Gylfie, he discovers that St. Aggie's is really a training camp for the leader's own nefarious goal.

1. Soren and his family mark special events in their lives with ceremonies. What ceremonies have you had or will you have in the future? Why are they important?
2. Soren remembers his father saying that legends are true in your heart and that their lessons can contribute to being a better owl. How does this memory help Soren at St. Aegolius?
3. How does Soren and Gylfie's friendship make them stronger? Describe a time you worked with a friend to accomplish something important.
4. How does the author make the characters in this fantasy world seem real?
5. What does Gylfie's father say is the most important aspect of learning to fly? Is this advice applicable to learning other skills? How so?
6. Share a legend you know, or learn about one by researching legends on the Internet. What is the purpose or the lesson of the legend?
7. Compare Auntie's behavior towards Soren when he arrives and her behavior towards Hortense after she is caught. Why does she act so differently towards them?
8. Soren, Gylfie, Twilight, and Digger join together to search for the Tree of Ga'Hoole. Describe the character traits of each and discuss the contributions they make to the team.
9. How are the owls of this book similar to human characters in other fantasy books? How are they different?
10. Why does Gylfie wait for Soren to learn to fly before escaping? Discuss why this could be a good idea and why it could be a bad idea.