



Discussion Questions for *The Hero Two Doors Down* by Sharon Robinson

How many kids have the chance to become friends with their hero? The year is 1948, and Stephen Satlow is an eight-year-old boy living in Brooklyn, New York, which means he only cares about one thing – the Dodgers. Then Steve hears a rumor that an African-American family is moving to his all-Jewish neighborhood. His new neighbor...turns out to be none other than Jackie Robinson! As social changes sweep the nation, the bond between Steve, Jackie and their families grow in this exciting story about baseball, friendship and heroes.

1. Imagine your hero moves two doors down from you! Who would it be and why are they your hero?
2. Steve and his father share a passion for baseball and the Brooklyn Dodgers. What's a passion you share with your parent(s)?
3. Describe some challenges Jackie Robinson deals with both on and off the field. How do his actions help to overcome discrimination?
4. Which scene from the book do you remember best? What makes it so memorable?
5. Steve loves going to ballgames! At what type of events do you enjoy attending and why?
6. Why do you think the author choose to tell the story as a flashback?
7. If you could meet Jackie Robinson, what would you ask him?
8. How does the gift of the Christmas tree strengthen the friendship between the Satlows and Robinsons?
9. How has Steve changed by the ending of the story? How has he stayed the same?
10. Steve's father says: "The past often serves as a guide for the future." From your experience, do you find this to be true? Why or why not?