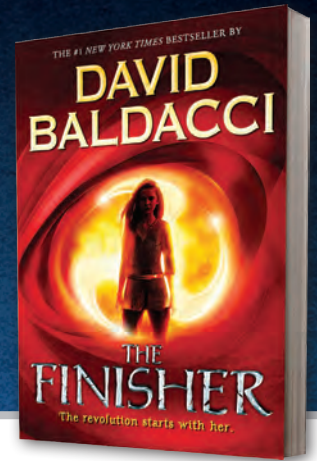


THE FINISHER READING GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

DAVID BALDACCI

Vega Jane has always been told that the village of Wormwood is surrounded by danger on all sides. The only way to stay safe is never to leave, to obey all the rules, and not to ask questions. But when Vega's friend disappears, she starts to dig at Wormwood's dark secrets and discovers that the deadliest threat of all may lie inside.



Discussion Questions for *The Finisher*

1. Vega and Morigone are both strong-willed females, and although they don't see eye to eye, sometimes they need each other. How do you view their relationship? Do you see Morigone as Vega's friend or her foe?
2. Vega takes a lot of risks in the story—from investigating Quentin's disappearance to exploring Stacks and fighting in the Duelum. Why do you think she does these things? What motivates her actions?
3. What role does Council play in the village of Wormwood? Do you think the members of Council always have Wugs' best interests at heart?
4. What kind of reputation does Delph have among other Wugs his age? How does his friendship with Vega change him throughout the story?
5. What happens to Wugs when they suffer an Event? Do you think there's more to an Event than what most Wugs are led to believe?
6. When Vega meets Eon, he offers her the chance to travel through a magical gate and witness either her past or her future, if only she selects the right key. Why does Vega hope to choose the key to her past? Which key would you prefer?
7. Why do you think Wormwood holds Duelums twice a Session? How do males react to the Duelum? Females?
8. Why is Vega forced to participate in the Duelum? Do you think she deserves her punishment?
9. Destin, the Elemental, or the Adder Stone: If you could possess only one of these magical items, which would it be, and why?
10. How does Wormwood compare to societies in our own world? Do you know of any real places similar to Wormwood?
11. If you could meet any of the characters from *The Finisher*, who would you choose to meet, and what would you say to him or her?
12. At the end of the book, Vega and Delph finally make it over the Wall and into the Quag. What do you think they'll find there? What do you think lies beyond the Quag?



Photo: Alexander James

David Baldacci is the author of twenty-seven books for adults, each of which has become both a national and international bestseller. His astonishing career started with *Absolute Power*, which was adapted into a major motion picture starring Clint Eastwood. David's books have sold more than 110 million copies worldwide, and have been translated into more than forty-five languages. Together with his wife, Michelle, David established the Wish You Well Foundation® to promote family literacy. David and his family live in Virginia.