

**A Common Core State
Standards Aligned Reading
Group Discussion Guide for**



One Day and One
Amazing Morning on Orange
Street

Written by Joanne Rocklin

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When a mysterious man arrives one day on Orange Street, the children who live on the block try to find out who he is and why he's there. Little do they know that his story—and the story of a very old orange tree—connects to each of their personal worries in ways they never could have imagined. From impressing friends to dealing with an expanding family to understanding a younger sibling's illness, the characters' storylines come together around that orange tree.

Reading Group Guide

1. What is your favorite scene in the book and why?
2. Bunny, Ali and Leandra, the members of the Girls With Long Hair Club, each have distinctive personalities—for example, one is a worrier, one is feisty, and one is thoughtful. What do you see as their similarities? Which character do you most relate to and why?
3. Several of the characters in the story have fears that at times overwhelm them: for Bunny it's her mom traveling for work; for Ali it's her brother's illness; and for Leandra it's her mom's pregnancy. What do you think it is about each girl and their specific worries that causes such concern? What are some of the things that happen in the book to help them overcome these apprehensions?
4. The orange tree lot holds a great deal of meaning for the residents of Orange Street. Do you have a place in your community that is special to you? If so, what is it and why is it special? What would you do if there was a possibility it could be taken away from you?
5. Over the years, many residents of Orange Street have buried special objects under the tree—some to preserve a memory, some for good luck, some 'just because'. If you were to bury something in your special place, what would it be and why?
6. Ali holds onto the blue stone she found buried under the tree and uses it as a wishing stone. Bunny often looks at everyday objects—the orange cone, the color orange, and the number of snails—for signs portending what kind of day she may have. Why do you think they each have such a need to hope for good things for themselves and the people they love? Do you ever look at objects or events and try to find meaning in them?
7. The novel weaves in stories from different generations such as Ms. Snoops' childhood and the mysterious man's childhood. What do you see as being the biggest changes in the community over these time periods? What remained the same?
8. Magic is referenced many times throughout the novel—as Ms. Snoops does her yoga she chants "Now, now, magic now." Robert practices magic tricks. Can you think of other examples in the book where magic is mentioned? Why do you think Joanne Rocklin chose to incorporate it into this story? Do you see elements of magic at work within the novel?
9. The story takes place over the course of a day and a morning. If you were to write a story about 36 hours in your life, who and what would you write about?
10. If you were to direct a movie of One Day and One Amazing Morning on Orange Street, whom would you cast in the roles of the main characters?

Common Core State Standards Alignment:

English Language Arts Standards » Reading: Literature - CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1, RL.3.3, RL.3.10, RL.4.3, RL.4.10, RL.5.10

English Language Arts Standards » Speaking & Listening - CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.1, SL.3.2, SL.3.3, SL.3.6, SL.4.1, SL.5.1, SL.6.1, SL.7.1