



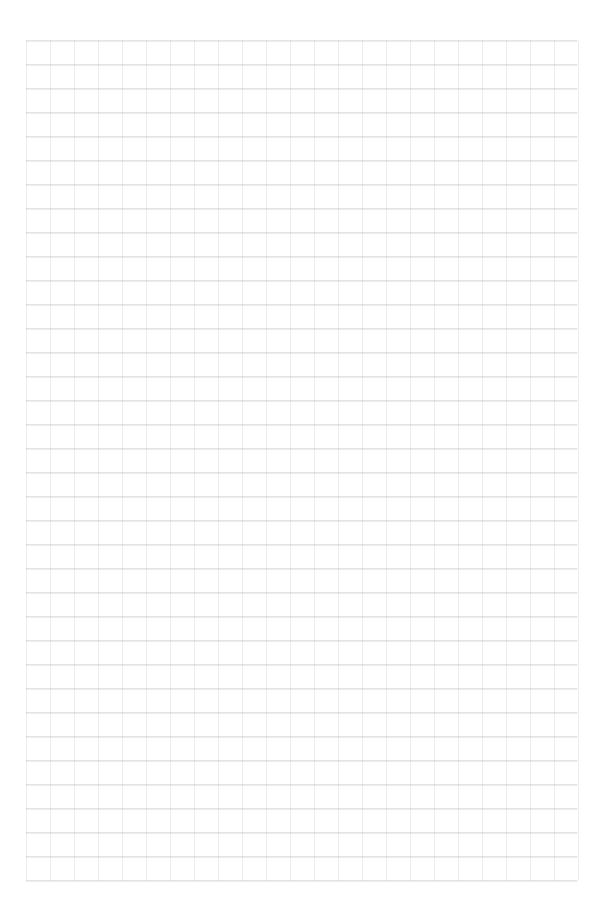
# TEACHER'S GUIDE

TO WAND-PAPER-SCISSORS AND SLEEPY HOLLOW



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# INTRODUCTION TO THE TEACHER'S GUIDE \$\interline{F}\$



Rabbit Publishers wants all readers to be engaged readers. To become an engaged reader it is important that students make connections to the stories they read.

Engaged readers connect what they know and have experienced to characters and events in the book. This guide will suggest prompts and questions to help your students explore *Wand-Paper-Scissors* and connect to its characters, setting, events and themes

Prompts and questions are meant as guidelines and suggestions for discussion.

This guide has been designed so that teachers may use a variety of reading/discussion methods. You can decide to read aloud chapter-by-chapter (a suggested reading schedule is included) or read the book in its entirety before tackling the questions.

#### The guide is designed to work within an 6-week course but is fully customizable.

There are three different types of questions found in this guide. The first group is chapter-by-chapter text-driven questions which call for targeted answers taken from the text. This section also includes optional vocabulary words from each chapter and also some fun trivia questions which will ask students to dive into the text and search for the correct answer.

# Students may work independently or with a partner or in a small group to answer text-driven questions.

These questions are also designed so student readers can find the answers with a partner or in a small group setting.

The next section of questions deals with *Wand-Paper-Scissors* as a whole. These essential questions cover the entire text. These questions are open-ended with no exact or correct answer and invite students to discuss their answers and opinions.

The final section of questions invites teachers to explore different literary elements with students:

- SETTING
- CHARACTERIZATION
- VOICE and VIEW POINT and then finally
- THEME



# INTRODUCTION TO WAND-PAPER-SCISSORS AND SLEEPY HOLLOW

#### Summary

In Wand-Paper-Scissors thirteen-year-old Harry Moon is determined to win the annual Sleepy Hollow Middle School Talent Contest. But he must go up against school favorite and bully Titus Kligore. He takes a chance on a magical rabbit who introduces him to the deep magic as Harry deals with Titus's constant bullying and threats to drop out of the contest. With Rabbit's help Harry decides to DO NO EVIL even when his battle with Titus reaches epic proportions.

#### **Sleepy Hollow, Massachusetts**

Like all Harry Moon books, *Wand, Paper, Scissors* takes place in the fictional town of Sleepy Hollow, Massachusetts. It was here that the evil Mayor Maximus Kligore decided to work his evil. It seemed the logical decision because for quite some time tourists had been traveling to Sleepy Hollow, Massachusetts in search of the infamous Headless Horseman of Ichabod Crane fame. But of course they were in the wrong state. The Headless Horseman of literary legend could only be found in Sleepy Hollow, New York. Until . . .

Maximus Kligore, a pawn in an even more vile and evil underworld plan, saw an incredible opportunity to not only bring glory to his own despicable self, but to bring Sleepy Hollow, Massachusetts out of certain financial ruin. So the townsfolk were more than happy to go along with his plan. Using dark magic, Kligore plunged the town into a state of eternal Halloween, commissioned the construction of a huge, bronze Headless Horseman statue to be erected in the town green and ordered all stores, shops and businesses to take on the holiday of Halloween—forever! His plan succeeded and Sleepy Hollow, Massachusetts has become one of the country's leading tourist traps ... er, destinations.

There was only one thing Kligore did not account for—the only power strong enough to halt his evil plans—the power of Good and Light in the person of thirteen-year-old, Harry Moon.

What's so amazing about Harry Moon? A lot! Where else will you find a kid role model who will teach your kid(s) to love life, respect nature, help their fellow

schoolmates, befriend their enemies, honor their body, not label people too quickly, seek wisdom from their elders, guide younger kids, control their passions, remain curious, accept that life will have trouble and of course to always love their moms.

Harry Moon does all of this while fighting the evil that has taken over his town!

We're not saying Harry is perfect super hero—far from it. He gets into his fair share of trouble stemming from his own desires as well as the usual places—school, home, the town. His response to that trouble is what makes Harry Moon the perfect role model for your kids.

Yep, it's all in the Harry Moon and Honey Moon books.

# But sometimes it takes a little digging to find the messages and meanings in stories.

That's why Rabbit Publishers created this guide. Kids will not only learn how to read and interpret Harry Moon using a shared questions method of discussion but will most definitely bring those skills back to the classroom. Developing their critical reading skills are an important part of every student's educational career.

For kids and teens **sharing a book together is invaluable**. This can be the place where some kids and teens find their voice as they learn to express opinions and ideas in a less stringent setting.

Often introverted or shy kids are willing to speak up for the first time in a group setting as they become more and more comfortable with his or her peers.

Reading and discussing books in community has life-long effects as statistics show that children involved in a book discussion group develop a love for books and literature, words and ideas and will continue to read well into adulthood.

The Harry and Honey Moon discussion curriculum is a place for kids to read, discuss and imagine about some of life's most challenging questions in a safe environment. It is a place where every kid can dwell in possibility.





# TELL ME A STORY

"All the elements of the fairy tale are waiting within us: the quest; the younger son; the true princess; the benevolent brothers (or sisters); the witch or wizard; the wise old woman; beasts and monsters; the happy ending."

—Madeline L'Engle, The Rock That is Higher

Tell me a story. These words are a great invitation. An invitation to visit a world beyond our own, to follow a character down a path so treacherous, failure is all but assured. A story is an invitation to participate in triumph and love, and an invitation to see ourselves reflected in another's eyes and voice. That is the call of the story—to know we are not alone and that there is help.

# WHO IS HARRY MOON?

This teacher's guide will help you and your kids will discover great and personal truths as you journey together through the world of Harry Moon.

#### AN INTERVIEW WITH HARRY MOON

What do you hope they learn or take away from your stories Harry?

A: I guess that kids should be confident in themselves and try not let themselves get bullied around and also how important it is to have good friends.

You talk about being bullied by Titus in your middle school. What do you hope kids learn from you about how to deal with a bully-Titus?

A: It's not fun to be bullied. It's actually scary. Sometimes the only thing you can do is tell somebody that it is happening because sometimes it like wrecks your life. For me, I decided that I would try and make the bully my friend by being kind to him rather than being afraid. For me, it worked. It doesn't always work. Believe me, I know. And if bullies are really getting you down make sure you talk to a trusted adult. They can help. I learned that a lot of adults, teachers included were bullied once. They'll understand.

You share with kids your love of magic, how did you develop that love? How did you learn to do magic tricks?

It wasn't that I loved magic, but I loved being able to do things that surprised people. I liked hearing them say, "How did he do that?" Along the way I discovered there was magic and that there was 'real, deep magic'. That is when everything changed.

When you went to the magic store to get a wand for your magic trick (you were doing for the talent show); you met Samson. What was your first impression of him? What did you learn from him?

A: My first impression of Samson was that he was a very old goofy guy. Not many adults pay attention to you when you are a kid. I liked him almost right away. He taught me the deep magic and some pretty cool tricks to use when I really need too.

You and your mom can talk about anything. Even when you don't agree with one another you know you're loved. How does your family make you feel loved even when you are having a disagreement?

A: I think mainly by not yelling and talking to me like a person and letting me have an opinion that is different than theirs. When I am at my friend houses, I am always surprised how they are treated like babies by their parents and yelled at all the time. I would hate that.

You and your mom have a discussion about "true power" and where it comes from. Can you explain to the kids what "real" power is and where it comes from?

A: Of course not. No really understands. It's a mystery.

Samson from the magic store gave you a special rabbit. He's more than a pet. Can you tell readers what it means to have rabbit who's become your friend?



It means that I am never alone and that I have a friend that is always smarter than me and that will help me if I let him. It's not easy having a friend like Rabbit. It means that I have to admit I might be wrong a lot. A whole lot.

I saw that your friend rabbit said to you, "having a friend like me has consequences" what does he mean by that?

A: Well, if you had a friend like Rabbit, you wouldn't ask that question.

Which story was the hardest for you to share? Why? What do you hope kids take away as you share it?

That's easy. It's my relationship with my parents. It's in all the stories. Sometimes kids make fun that I am so close to my mom and dad. When you are in 8th grade, its cooler sometimes to put your parents down and stuff. So it's kinda embarrassing that we get along, even though we argue sometimes. I guess I would want kids to know that their parents may be cooler than they think.

What keeps you sane in the middle of craziness? Hope in the middle of stress and life's storms going through middle school?

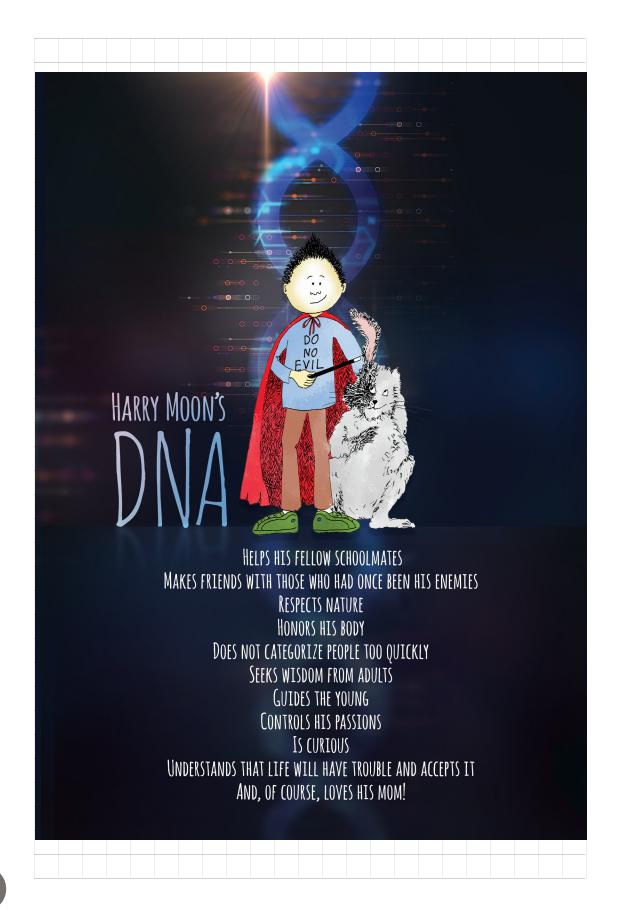
A: Life in eighth grade and living in Sleepy Hollow can ne pretty difficult. Rabbit keeps reminding me to keep my head up and to look behind everything to understand what is really going on. He also reminds me that a lot of kids can be mean and to remember that a lot of them are really hurting.

What three things are you most thankful for in life?

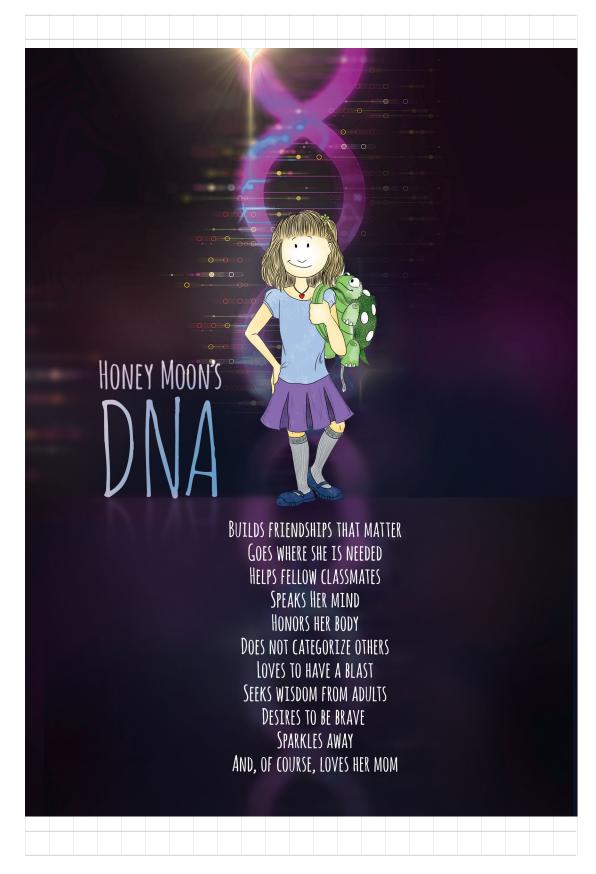
A: My family, Samson and Rabbit. And of course, Sarah.

What's the best advice your parents or close friends has given you? How has it helped you?

A: That is easy. It's from Rabbit: DO NO EVIL.







# FAMILY, FRIENDS & FOES

#### **Harry Moon**

Harry is the thirteen-year-old hero of Sleepy Hollow. He is a gifted magician who is learning to use his abilities and understand what it means to possess the real magic. An unlikely hero, Harry is shorter than his classmates and has a shock of inky, black hair. He loves his family and his town. Along with his friend Rabbit, Harry is determined to bring Sleepy Hollow back to its true and wholesome glory.

#### **Rabbit**

Now you see him. Now you don't. Rabbit is Harry Moon's friend. Some see him. Most can't. Rabbit is a large, black-and-white, lop-eared, Harlequin rabbit. As Harry has discovered, having a friend like Rabbit has its consequences. Never stingy with advice and counsel, Rabbit always has Harry's back as Harry battles the evil that has overtaken Sleepy Hollow.

#### **Honey Moon**

She's a ten-year-old, sassy spitfi re. And she's Harry's little sister. Honey likes to say she goes where she is needed, and sometimes this takes her into the path of danger. Honey never gives in and never gives up when it comes to righting a wrong. Honey always looks out for her friends. Honey does not like that her town has been plunged into a state of eternal Halloween and is even afraid of the evil she feels lurking all around. But if Honey has anything to say about it, evil will not be sticking around.

#### **Samson Dupree**

Samson is the enigmatic owner of the Sleepy Hollow Magic Shoppe. He is Harry's mentor and friend. When needed, Samson teaches Harry new tricks and helps him understand his gift of magic. Samson arranged for Rabbit to become Harry's sidekick and friend. Samson is a timeless, eccentric man who wears purple robes, red slippers, and a gold crown. Sometimes, Samson shows up in mysterious ways. He even appeared to Harry's mother shortly after Harry's birth.

#### **Mary Moon**

Strong, fair, and spiritual, Mary Moon is Harry and Honey's mother. She is also mother to two-year-old Harvest. Mary is married to John Moon. Mary is learning to understand Harry and his destiny. So far, she is doing a good job letting Harry and Honey





fight life's battles. She's grateful that Rabbit has come alongside to support and counsel her. But like all moms, Mary often fi nds it difficult to let her children walk their own paths. Mary is a nurse at Sleepy Hollow Hospital.

#### John Moon

John is the dad. He's a bit of a nerd. He works as an IT professional, and sometimes he thinks he would love it if his children followed in his footsteps. But he respects that Harry, Honey, and possibly Harvest will need to go their own way. John owns a classic sports car he calls Emma.

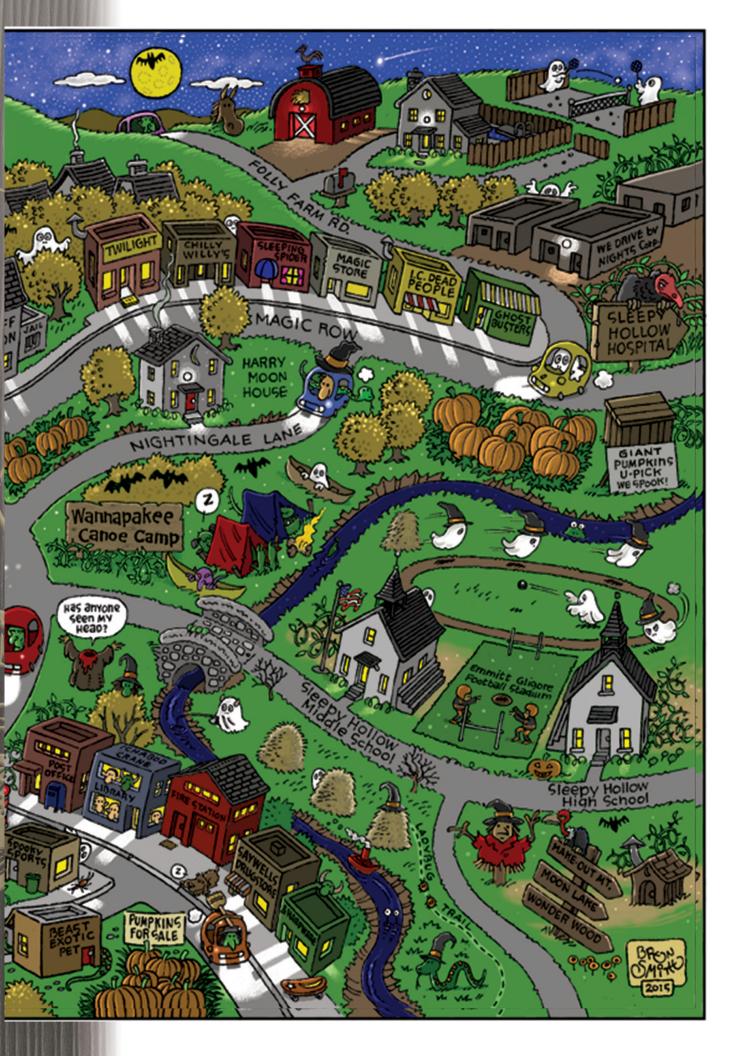
#### **Titus Kligore**

Titus is the mayor's son. He is a bully of the fi rst degree but also quite conflicted when it comes to Harry. The two have managed to forge a tentative friendship, although Titus will assert his bully strength on Harry from time to time. Titus is big. He towers over Harry. But in a kind of David vs. Goliath way, Harry has learned which tools are best to counteract Titus's assaults while most of the Sleepy Hollow kids fear him. Titus would probably rather not be a bully, but with a dad like Maximus Kligore, he feels trapped in the role.

#### **Maximus Kligore**

The epitome of evil, nastiness, and greed, Maximus Kligore is the mayor of Sleepy Hollow. To bring in the cash, Maximus turned the town into the nightmarish, Halloween attraction it is today. He commissions the evil-tinged celebrations in town. Maximus is planning to take Sleepy Hollow with him to Hell. But will he? He knows Harry Moon is a threat to his dastardly ways, but try as he might, he has yet to rid himself of Harry's meddling. Kligore lives on Folly Farm and owns most of the town, including the town newspaper.





# SUGGESTED READING SCHEDULE

**Session One** Pre-Reading through Chapter 2 – pages I-46

**Session Two** Chapter 3, 4, 5 – pages 47 - 75

**Session Three** Chapters 6, 7 – pages 77 - 102

**Session Four** Chapters 8, 9 – pages 103 - 132

**Session Five** Chapters 10, 11 – pages 133 - 159

**Session Six** Chapter 12, 13 – pages 161 - 204





### PRE-READING EXERCISE

Research the Legend of Sleepy Hollow if time allows. What can you tell about the Headless Horseman and why it has become associated with Halloween? (Optional)

#### **Wand-Paper-Scissors**

A good place to begin any book discussion is with the cover.

#### **Predicting Prompt**

Ask students to predict what the story might be about based on the title and cover image.

After they read the story check and see if their predictions were correct.



### QUESTIONS

Students can work with a partner or in a small group. Ask students to write down their answers. These are predicting questions so there is not one correct answer.

- 1. What could the title be referring to?
- 2. What does the word ORIGIN mean?
- 3. The kid on the cover must be Harry. What can you tell about Harry by the words on his shirt?
- 4. What do the cape and magic wand tell you?
- 5. What do you think of the rabbit? What could he mean to Harry?



Ask students to open the cover. They will discover a full color map of Sleepy Hollow. Take some time to explore the town.

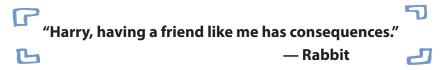
- 1. What do your students notice?
- 2. How do they feel about the town?
- 3. Can they make some predictions about the story based on anything they see on the map?

Under the words SLEEPY HOLLOW it reads: Where Every Day is Halloween Night.

What kinds of predictions about the story can students make now?

As students turn the pages they will see an EPIGRAPH.

Explain this. An epigraph is a short quotation or saying at the beginning of a book or chapter, which connects with the book's overall theme.



#### **Predicting Prompt**

Can you figure out what this might mean?

The quote is attributed to Rabbit. What does this tell you?

What does it mean to have consequences? Are consequences always bad?

### PREFACE

Read the preface together.

#### **Predicting Prompt for Group Discussion**

What kind of novel is Wand-Paper-Scissors?

Who is the villain?

Who is the hero?





# CHAPTER ONE TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS



## The Scariest Thing of All

For these questions have your students work in pairs or in small groups. Ask them to locate the answers in the text and write down their answers and the page number where the answer can be found.

Pages 1-20

- 1. Why is Sleepy Hollow famous? It's where everyday is Halloween night
- 2. Harry Moon is going to perform in annual scary talent contest. Who is his biggest competition? (pages 2-3) Titus is his biggest competition.
- 3. Describe Titus Kligore. Describe Harry Moon. (page 5) Titus is huge, large head, broad shoulders. Harry is small and has inky black hair.
- 4. Who are Harry Moon's friends? Declan, Bailey and Hao.
- 5. Why did Mayor Kligore do to restore Sleepy Hollow? (page 8) Turned it into Spooky Town.
- 6. What act of bullying did Titus do to Harry? (page 12) He cut off his hair.
- 7. What is the statue in the center of town? (page 7) The Headless Horseman from The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

#### **Essential Questions**

These questions are intended for large group discussion. There are no exact answers?

1. In chapter one after the author describes Sleepy Hollow he says, "At Sleepy Hollow Middle School, however, the scariest thing of all were the students." What does the author mean by this? Why can school be a scary place sometimes? Who specifically in the story, do you think the author was referring too?

2. On his way home from school the narrator tells how Harry was often ridiculed for his name. When he gets home he tells his parents he wants to change his name. But his father reminds him that he was named in honor of a very important person in his dad's life. Then his father tells him: "You just have to rise-above name-calling." How would you respond?



### **Vocabulary Words**



#### **Aspiring**

Page 2

to long, aim, or seek ambitiously; be eagerly desirous, especially for some thing great or of high value.

#### Swagger

Page 5

verb (used without object)

1. to walk or strut with a defiant or insolent air.

#### Sophisticated Page 15

adjective

having, revealing, or proceeding from a great deal of worldly experience and knowledge of fashion and culture.

#### **Trivia Questions**

- How tall is the Headless Horseman statue?
   14 feet tall
- 2. What is the name of Titus Kligore's musical group? The Maniacs
- 3. What is the name of the student's drama teacher? Miss Pryor
- 4. What is the sound Harry heard when he was walking home from school? Slish Slash





# CHAPTER TWO TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS



## The Sleepy Hollow Magic Shoppe

For these questions have your students work in pairs or in small groups. Ask them to locate the answers in the text and write down their answers and the page number where the answer can be found.

#### Pages 21-46

- 1. Why did Harry want to change his name? (pages 21-23) Because kids make fun of him.
- 2. How does Harry's dad tell him to deal with name-calling (page 24) He tells him to rise-above it.
- 3. What kind of magic does Harry want to learn? (page 27) Deep Magic.
- 4. Who is Harry's magician hero? (page 32) Elvis Gold.
- 5. What happens to Harry outside The Magic Shoppe? (pages 34-35) He is nearly run down by a dark Towne Car.
- 6. What does Samson do after Harry tells him he's ready to learn Deep Magic? (page 37) He asks him some questions to test him.
- 7. Does Harry just jump right into the Deep Magic? (page 37) No. He questions his motives.
- 8. What riddle does Samson ask Harry? (page 43) What is the greatest Gift? What is the answer? The ability to choose.
- 9. Which wand does Harry choose? (page 46)
  The one made from Almond Wood.

#### **Essential Questions**

These questions are intended for large group discussion. There are no exact answers?

- 1. The name Harrold is an Old English name which means, "ruler, leader, power." It's early in the story but do you think this name fits Harry? Do you know why your parent's gave you your name? What does it mean?
- 2. Harry goes to the Magic Shoppe to purchase a magic wand. Before Samson Dupree gives him the wand he helps Harry examine his motives. Samson asks, "Do you honestly believe you are fully prepared for the wand, Harry?" Harry thinks before answering and reminds himself of what his father asks when making a decision. "Is what I am doing truthful, pure, of goodwill and of service to all?" (page 38)
- 3. How can you apply this simple test to your life? Is it a good exercise when needing to make choices, particularly ethical or moral choices? Is it a good question to ask before giving in to the temptation of making fun of someone or resorting to bullying?



### **Vocabulary Words**



Noble

Page 24

adjective

having or showing fine personal qualities or high moral principles and ideals.

**Excellence** Page

Page 26

noun

noun: the quality of being outstanding or extremely good.

Eccentric

Page 28

(of a person or their behavior) unconventional and slightly strange.





**Innocuous** Page 28

adjective not harmful or offensive.

Sleight of Hand Page 31

manual dexterity, typically in performing tricks.

#### **Trivia Questions**

- 1. What is the name of Harry and Honey's little brother? Harvest. (page 23)
- 2. Who was Harry named for? Harrold Runyon. (page 24)
- 3. On what street does Harry live? Nightingale Lane. (page 28)
- 4. What is the color of Samson Dupree's cape? Purple. (page 38)
- 5. Which wand did Harry choose? Almond wood. (page 44)







# CHAPTER THREE TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS



### Sarah Sinclair

For these questions have your students work in pairs or in small groups. Ask them to locate the answers in the text and write down their answers and the page number where the answer can be found.

Pages 47 - 52

- 1. Who is Harry's former babysitter? (page 47) Sarah Sinclair
- 2. What gift does Sarah give to Harry? (page 46) A Rabbit
- 3. Where did Sarah get the rabbit? (page 51) Samson Dupree

### CHAPTER FOUR TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS



# Rabbit

Pages 53 - 61

- 1. Honey bursts into Harry's room and Harry tries to introduce her to Rabbit. (page 54) But what happens? She cannot see him.
- 2. Rabbit tells Harry that most people can't see him. What does Rabbit say is the solution? To use him in a trick.
- 3. What happens when Honey reaches into the magic top hat? (page 57). She is able to see Rabbit.
- 4. That night Harry asks Rabbit to explain how he "works" or exists. How does Rabbit answer him? (page 60) That he is like goodness.

# CHAPTER FIVE TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS

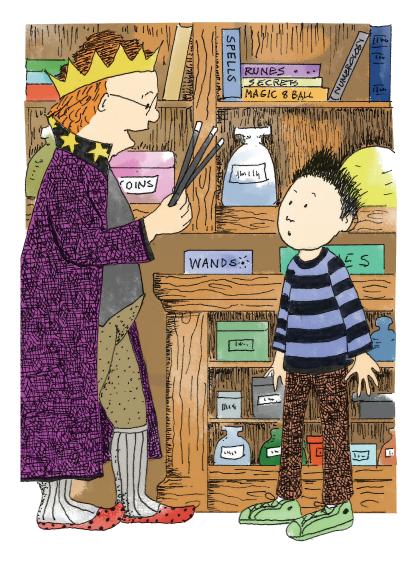


# Mand

For these questions have your students work in pairs or in small groups. Ask them to locate the answers in the text and write down their answers and the page number where the answer can be found.

Pages 63 - 75

- 1. What does Harry's mother tell him right before rehearsal? (page 64) To beat him with excellence.
- 2. Harry thinks the Maniacs advantages are not fair? Do you ever feel like your circumstances are not fair? What are some ways to counteract this? What was Rabbit's advice to Harry? (page 65)







- 3. What does Titus do when he sees Harry? (page 66)
- 4. When Harry pulls Rabbit out of the top hat what is unusual about Rabbit? (page 69)
- 5. What does Rabbit do that seems to surprise everyone, even Harry? (page 72)
- 6. After the act, the audience is amazed, all except for Titus. He's angry. Can you project what this might mean for Harry down the road? (page 74) He could get bullied more.
- 7. Even Harry is not exactly certain what had just happened. There is only one thing he can think of to explain Rabbit's spectacular ride? What is that word? (page 75) Magic

#### **Essential Questions**

These questions are intended for large group discussion. There are no exact answers?

- 1. When Harry pulls Rabbit from the hat, Titus screams that it's not fair? What does this tell you about bullies considering all the advantages Titus has as the mayor's son?
- 2. What does Rabbit tell Harry about the most important things in life? (page 61) "The most important things in life cannot be seen." What does this mean? Can you name some important things that are invisible?
- 3. How would you describe or explain magic?



### **Vocabulary Words**



Dynamic

Page 48

adjective

(of a person) positive in attitude and full of energy and new ideas.

Jubilant Page 51

adjective

feeling or expressing great happiness and triumph.

**Haunches** Page 57

noun

a buttock and thigh considered together, in a human or animal.

Goodness Page 60

noun

the quality of being good, in particular. virtue; moral excellence.

Kindness Page 60

noun

the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate.

**Gentleness** Page 60

noun

the quality of being kind, tender, or mild-mannered.

Self-control Page 60

noun

the ability to control oneself, in particular one's emotions and desires or the expression of them in one's behavior, especially in difficult situations.

**Tradition** Page 63

noun

the transmission of customs or beliefs from generation to generation, or the fact of being passed on in this way.

Mesmerize Page 65

verb

hold the attention of (someone) to the exclusion of all else or so as to transfix them.



**Protocol** Page 66

noun

the official procedure or system of rules governing affairs of state or diplomatic occasions.

Blaspheme Page 69

verb

speak irreverently about God or sacred things.

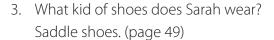
**Anthropomorphic** Page 70

adjective

relating to or characterized by anthropomorphism. having human characteristics.

#### **Trivia Questions**

- What is the name of the drama teacher?
   Miss Pryor. (page 48)
- 2. What kind of rabbit is Rabbit? Lop-eared Harlequin. (page 50)



- 4. How much does Rabbit weigh? Nine-and-one half pounds. (page 59)
- 5. What did Honey want when she burst into Harry's bedroom? Help with math. (page 53)
- 6. What does Honey tell harry he needs? Better tricks. (page 62)
- 7. What is the name of Titus Kligore's band? The Maniacs. (page 64)
- 8. What does Harry tell Rabbit about winning with excellence?



Where there's a will, there's a way. (page 65)

- 9. What song did Titus and the Maniacs perform? Let's Get Hysterical. (page 66)
- 10. What character does Titus say Harry resembles in his top hat? Mr. Do Not Pass Go. (page 68)
- 11. What time is the Talent Show? Saturday at 6pm. (page 74)







# CHAPTER SIX TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS



### Some Bad Mischief

For these questions have your students work in pairs or in small groups. Ask them to locate the answers in the text and write down their answers and the page number where the answer can be found.

Pages 77 - 86

- 1. On his way home, Harry performs a magic trick. What does he do? (page 78)
- 2. The magic seems to startle him. What does he do? (page 79) Runs. Who does he run into? (Titus)
- 3. What does Titus demand of Harry? (page 81)
- 4. Titus is angry. He even tries to break the wand. But can't. So what does he do instead? (page 82-83). He cuts off Harry's hair.
- 5. Harry is upset. He finds the magic wand and tries to pull a trick on Titus. (page 85) What happens? Can you make a conjecture about the wand and Harry's magic based on this?

# CHAPTER SEVEN TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS



## **Imagine**

For these questions have your students work in pairs or in small groups. Ask them to locate the answers in the text and write down their answers and the page number they found it.

#### Pages 87 - 102

- 1. Harry and his dad discuss magic. Harry's dad wants Harry to understand that there is no such thing as Real Magic. But Harry argues. How does Harry defend his magic? (pages 93-94). He tells him it's about imagination.
- 2. Harry talks about imagination. What does imagination mean to you?
- 3. In the end though, John Moon gives Harry a bit of advice. What is that advice? (page 95) To keep his magic pure. What does this mean?
- 4. Harry goes to his room and sees his reflection in the mirror. He is angry and wants revenge on Titus. What do you think about this? What would you do in Harry's place? Does Harry need to practice self-control? (page 96)
- 5. What experience does Harry have that night? (page 100) He dreams.
- 6. When Harry wakes in the morning his hair has grown back. He now has a revelation. DO NO EVIL. How can you make this part of your life? (page 102).





#### **Essential Questions**

These questions are intended for large group discussion. There are no exact answers?

- 1. Why doesn't Harry tell his parents what Titus did to him? Would you have told?
- 2. Titus is convinced that he DID pull a great trick and that Harry will not be performing in the show. What does this tell you about bullies? What would you do if you were Harry? (page 86)
- 3. Rabbit takes Harry to the kitchen and shows him the stencils on the wall. Discuss the meaning of each of the words and how you can demonstrate them in your life.
- 4. On page 100 we read: Words have power. Explain this.



**Menacing** Page 79

adjective

suggesting the presence of danger; threatening.

**Silhouette** Page 79

noun

the dark shape and outline of someone or something visible against a lighter background, especially in dim light.

**Vengeance** Page 84

noun

punishment inflicted or retribution exacted for an injury or wrong.

**Undaunted** Page 85

adjective

not intimidated or discouraged by difficulty, danger, or disappointment.

#### Manipulate Page 90

verb

handle or control (a tool, mechanism, etc.), typically in a skillful manner.

control or influence (a person or situation) cleverly, unfairly, or unscrupulously.

#### Illusionist Page 92

noun

a person who performs tricks that deceive the eye; a magician.

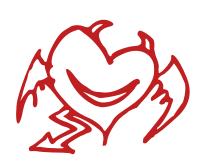
#### Wisdom Page 95

noun

the quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment; the quality of being wise.

#### **Trivia Questions**

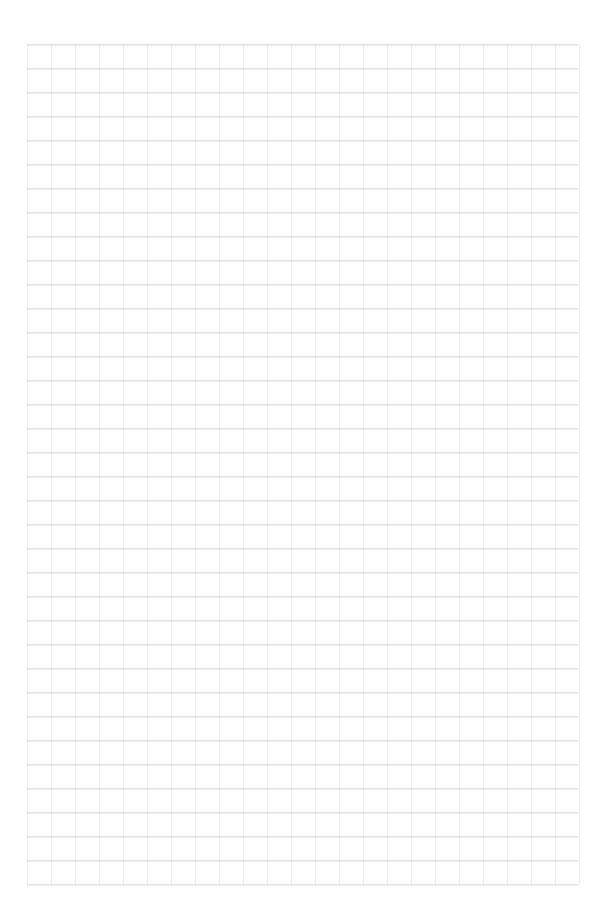
- 1. What does Harry say the trees resemble as he's walking home? Skeletons. (page 77)
- What does Harry turn into pumpkins?Stones from the wall at Meldrum's house. (page 79)
- 3. What does Titus want from Harry? The wand. (page 80)
- 4. What is the name of Titus's dog? Oink. (page 83)
- 5. What plants does Mrs. MacDougal raise? Gardenias. (page 84)
- 6. What kind of pajamas is Honey wearing? Princess. (page 89)





- 7. What kind of slippers is Harry's dad wearing? Star Trek. (page 90)
- 8. What does Harry's dad call Elvis Gold? A big quack. (page 92)
- What does Rabbit tell Harry about his magic?
   It's not for vengeance.
   (page 96)
- 10. What show did the Moon family see in New York? Christmas Spectacular. (page 100)











# CHAPTER EIGHT TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS



# Saturday

For these questions have your students work in pairs or in small groups. Ask them to locate the answers in the text and write down their answers and the page number where the answer can be found.

Pages 103 - 113

- 1. What words did Harry write on his tee shirt? (page 105) DO NO EVIL.
- 2. How do Harry's parents react to what Harry wrote on his tee shirt? (page 110). They think it's terrific.
- 3. Who does Harvest see at breakfast? (page 107) Rabbit.
- 4. Honey is wondering what Rabbit has to do with being excellent. Harry explains on page 112. What does he tell her? He tells her that you can't be excellent unless you are in step with the deep magic.

# CHAPTER NINE TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS



# The One Arm Appear

For these questions have your students work in pairs or in small groups. Ask them to locate the answers in the text and write down their answers and the page number where the answer can be found.

Pages 115 - 122

1. The night of the talent show has arrived. The whole town is talking. But

not Titus. He doesn't know Harry's hair has grown back. But on page 117 we learn something about Titus and his father. What is that? Titus has never been able to please his father. He really wants his dad to be proud of him.

- 2. Rabbit tells Harry that the magic won't work if it's done in anger. Harry seems to understand this now. But he's still scared. What is Rabbit's advice to him? (page122) To hide himself.
- 3. How do Harry and Sarah make it to school without being seen by Titus and his gang? (page 127) The Cloak of Invisibility.

# **Essential Questions**

These questions are intended for large group discussion. There are no exact answers?

- 1. On page 108 we read that Rabbit is visible to select people. What do these people have in common and why would Rabbit make himself visible to them?
- 2. Harvest seems to know and enjoy Rabbit, probably because he's still a baby. Why do you suppose older people have trouble seeing Rabbit?
- 3. For Maximus Kligore winning is the important thing. How do you think that would make Titus feel? Does it change how you feel about him?
- 4. On the way to the magic show Sarah tells Harry that she thinks Samson Dupree is his guardian angel. (page 125) Do you agree? Is there someone in your life you might think of as a guardian angel? What do they do?



# **Vocabulary Words**



**Furrowed** 

Page 104

verb

(with reference to the forehead or face) mark or be marked with lines or wrinkles caused by frowning, anxiety, or concentration.





**Tedious** Page 104

adjective

too long, slow, or dull: tiresome or monotonous.

Sweatshop Page 106

noun

a factory or workshop, especially in the clothing industry, where manual workers are employed at very low wages for long hours and under poor conditions.

**Lagomorph** Page 109

noun

a mammal of the order Lagomorpha ; a hare, rabbit, or pika.

**Perpetrator** Page 113

noun

a person who carries out a harmful, illegal, or immoral act.

Vindication Page 116

noun

the action of clearing someone of blame or suspicion.

Scapegoat Page 116

noun

a person who is blamed for the wrongdoings, mistakes, or faults of others, especially for reasons of expediency.

**Anxious** Page 120

adjective

experiencing worry, unease, or nervousness, typically about an imminent event or something with an uncertain outcome.



Navigated Page 128

verb

plan and direct the route or course of a ship, aircraft, or other form of transportation, especially by using instruments or maps.

# **Trivia Questions**

- 1. What breakfast cereal is Honey eating? Cheerios. (page 103)
- 2. What hobby does Harry's dad have? Silk-screens tee-shirts. (page 106)
- 3. What is the name of Harry's dog? Half Moon. (page 107)
- 4. What does Harvest say after spraying Honey with Cheerios? Abracadabra. (page 113)
- 5. What unusual thing happened before the talent show started? Tickets sold out. (page 115)
- 6. What instruction did the mayor give Titus? Just see that you win. (page 117)
- 7. Where will the after-party be held? Chillie Willies. (page 117)
- 8. What color is the truck Sarah drove to the show? Blue Ford pickup. (page 124)







# CHAPTER TEN TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS



# The Scary Talent Show

For these questions have your students work in pairs or in small groups. Ask them to locate the answers in the text and write down their answers and the page number where the answer can be found.

Pages 133 - 159

- 1. What is the first thing Titus do when he gets to the talent show (page 134-13). He complains about Harry and Sarah.
- 2. Harry's act was the last of the evening. He and Sarah number where the answer can be found. d hidden behind the Cloak of Invisibility. Why did they do this? (page 139)
- 3. Mayor Kligore is in the audience. He looks at Harry through binoculars and comments on Harry's magic wand. What does he see? Why does it upset him? (page 148) Because he knows the power of the Almond Wand. It is for good and Maximus doesn't like goodness.
- 4. After Rabbit's spectacular flight, Harry removes his cape and reveals his tee shirt . What words are on his shirt? DO NO EVIL (page 158)

# CHAPTER ELEVEN TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS



### Loss

For these questions have your students work in pairs or in small groups. Ask them to locate the answers in the text and write down their answers and the page number they found it.

Pages 161 - 171

- 1. Who finally wins the talent show? Titus and the Maniacs. Were you surpised?
- 2. How does Harry demonstrate Good Sportsmanship after the show? (page 164) He agrees to go to the after-party.
- 3. On page 166, Harry's friends discuss the possibility that Sleepy Hollow isn't all fun and games. That something more sinister might be behind the We Drive By Night Company? Do you agree? Back up your opinion?
- 4. What important phrase does Rabbit say on page 171?

### **Essential Questions**

These questions are intended for large group discussion. There are no exact answers?

- 1. At the beginning of the chapter Titus accuses Harry of not abiding by the good sportsmanship rules of the contest. Do you agree with Titus? Or is Titus the one demonstrating poor sportsmanship? Why or why not?
- 2. On pages 141-142 it seems that Harry might have stage fright? Did you think that also as you read the scene? Or was Harry's silence really something else?
- 3. After Harry is swallowed by the hat, Rabbit emerges. Samson Dupree is in the audience and invites the twins to come to his store for a rabbit. What does this tell you about the twins? (page 153) They have the right stuff to have a friend like Rabbit.
- 4. Harry speaks. He says, "The mystery never leaves us." (page 144) do you think he means?
- 5. Harry's final words to the audience are: "There is deep magic in all of us." (page 159) What do you think Harry was trying to tell everyone?







*A capella* Page 137

without instrumental accompaniment. A cappella has Italian Roots.

**Diadem** Page 139

noun

a jeweled crown or headband worn as a symbol of sovereignty.

Pandemonium Page 151

noun

wild and noisy disorder or confusion; uproar.

**Proscenium** Page 156

noun

the part of a theater stage in front of the curtain.

# **Trivia Questions**

- 1. What time did Harry sign-in at the show? Six-twenty. (page 135)
- 2. Which act performed first? The Maniacs. (page 136)
- 3. What row were the Moon family sitting in for the show? Thirty-fifth row. (page 141)
- 4. What name does Honey call Harry at the show? Cheese ball. (page 146)
- 5. What happened to Rabbit as he flew? Broke into snowy particles. (page 157)

- 6. Under which rule did Harry get disqualified? Rule four, section G. (page 162)
- 2. What is the name of the trick the students plan to sabotage? The Haunted Cube (page 163)
- 3. What does the bumper sticker on the car Harry saw read? We Drive By Night (page 166)
- 4. What color is the veil Sarah blows her nose into? Purple. (page 169)
- 5. What does Rabbit ask of Harry and Sarah? That they will never leave him. (page 171)









# CHAPTER TWELVE TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS



# The Haunted Cube

For these questions have your students work in pairs or in small groups. Ask them to locate the answers in the text and write down their answers and the page number where the answer can be found.

Pages 173 - 191

- 1. By the time Harry and Sarah get to the party, the students are already planning to create trouble for Titus. Would you have gone along with their plan?
- 2. What experience does Harry have on page 179?
- 3. Harry dashes to the Haunted Cube. Using his magic he is transported to the top of the machine. But for one moment he remembers what Titus had done to him. How does he react? (page 186) What conclusion does her arrive at? That there must be some goodness in Titus. Not everyone is 100% bad.
- 4. How does Titus react to Harry after Harry saved his life? (page 187-188)
- 5. Would you say that Harry put his own life on the line? Where did his courage come from? Can you support your answer with text?

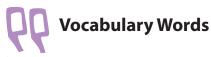
### **Essential Questions**

These questions are intended for large group discussion. There are no exact answers?

1. On page 171 Rabbit tells Harry and Sarah, "But the world is not fair. That's

why it needs heroes. It probably won't get any easier." How can you be a hero in your everyday life? Does the world need more heroes? Name the heroes in your school or community.

- 2. Harry's friends are more upset about Harry's disqualification than Harry. They even make a plan to get back at Titus. Whether the judges decision was correct or not, was this a good way to react? What would you have done?
- 3. Is revenge ever a good idea?
- 4. Even though he accepted the judge's ruling in a mature manner, he is still upset. When he is alone with Sarah he expresses his disappointment. What does this say about Harry's character? (page 169)





**Sentiment** Page 163

noun

a view of or attitude toward a situation or event; an opinion a feeling or emotion.

**Hypocrite** Page 166

noun

a person who indulges in hypocrisy. noun: hypocrisy; plural noun: hypocrisies

1. the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's own behavior does not conform; pretense.

**Quaint** Page 166

adjective

attractively unusual or old-fashioned.

**Bankruptcy** Page 166

noun

the state of being completely lacking in a particular quality or value.





**Reputation** Page 174

noun

the beliefs or opinions that are generally held about someone or something.

**Quadrant** Page 175

noun

technical

each of four quarters of a circle. each of four parts of a plane, sphere, space, or body divided by two lines or planes at right angles.

**Accentuate** Page 177

verb

make more noticeable or prominent.

**Intuition** Page 179

noun

the ability to understand something immediately, without the need for conscious reasoning.

Makeshift Page 182

Adjective

serving as a temporary substitute; sufficient for the time being.

# **Trivia Questions**

- 1. Who holds the record for the longest time in the Haunted Cube? Adele Cracken. (page 175)
- 2. How many movies does Clooney plan to show Titus? 160 . (page 175)
- 3. Who discovered a way to override the safety system of the cube? Larry, "The Locksmith" Loneghan. (page 177)
- 4. When Harry opens the cube how is it described? Like opening a can of sardines. (page 186)

5. Who does Harry say he is after he rescues Titus? Just a guy with a rabbit. (page 188)

# CHAPTER THIRTEEN TEXT-DRIVEN QUESTIONS



# **Good Mischief**

For these questions have your students work in pairs or in small groups. Ask them to locate the answers in the text and write down their answers and the page number where the answer can be found.

Pages 193 - 204

1. What happened to the students responsible for the Haunted Cube incident? They were given detention and a grounding. (page 193-194)



What is the theme of Wand-Paper-Scissors?

# Practicing goodness and kindness is one way to help a bully change

(Refer the section in Literary Elements for a discussion of theme and how to find the theme of a novel.)



# **Vocabulary Words**

99

Convene

Page 193

verb

come or bring together for a meeting or activity; assemble.

**Exceptional** Page 197

adjective

unusual; not typical.

**Epiphany** Page 200

noun

a moment of sudden revelation or insight.

**Impromptu** Page 202

adjective & adverb

impromptu; adverb: impromptu

done without being planned, organized, or rehearsed.

# **Trivia Questions**

- 1. What punishment did the students receive for the Haunted Cube incident? Six weeks of detention. (page 194)
- 2. What is the name of Clooney Mackay's girlfriend? PJ McDonald. (page 197)
- 3. Which book did Harry grab at his locker? Algebra. (page 199)
- 4. Who does Titus quote? Abraham Lincoln. (page 200)
- 5. What does Harry say is his destiny? To fight evil with good. (page 204)

# ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

The following general discussion guestions speak to and about the themes in Harry Moon. These questions are open-ended and ask students to draw conclusions or state an opinion or comments.

- 1. On his way home from school the narrator tells how Harry was often ridiculed for his name. When he gets home he tells his parents he wants to change his name. But his father reminds him that he was named in honor of a very important person in his dad's life. What sort of responsibility does getting named in honor of someone bring?
- 2. What does Harry's father tell him to do about getting teased? How can you "rise-above" ridicule?
- 3. Harry goes to the Magic Shoppe to purchase a magic wand. Before Samson Dupree gives him the wand he helps Harry examine his motives. Samson asks, "Do you honestly believe you are fully prepared for the wand, Harry?" Harry thinks before answering. What question does Harry remember? (page 38)
- 4. How can you apply this simple test from question 3 to your life? Is it a good exercise when needing to make choices, particularly ethical or "moral c hoices? Is it a good question to ask before giving in to the temptation of making fun of someone or resorting to bullying?
- 5. After Harry receives his new magic wand? Samson also gives him a warning. "Others shall want it and try and take it from you." (page 44) What event did this warning foreshadow?
- ter. Harry takes an immediate liking to Rabbit. Discuss the ways Rabbit





- becomes more than a simple magician's ploy. What does he embody or come to mean for Harry? In what ways does Rabbit encourage Harry? Do you have an inner rabbit?
- 7. At the talent show rehearsal it is evident that Titus will look for any reason to have Harry's act disqualified. What is he afraid of? How does he take matters into his own hands. (page 77)
- 8. Harry reacts by trying to get some kind of revenge on Titus. It doesn't work. How do you think Harry should have responded to Titus's attack? (page 85) What do you think is Titus's true reasons for cutting off Harry's hair?
- 9. That night Harry has a dream and wakes up with the words DO NO EVIL on his mind. (page 102) Start a discussion on what is evil. Try to think outside your school or neighborhood. How can you apply this phrase—DO NO EVIL—to your life? To your school? To the world?
- 10. Before the talent show Titus's father tells him, "Just see to it that you win!" (page 117) On that same page we learn that Titus has trouble pleasing his father. Winning became everything for the mayor. "Titus enjoyed winning, but sometimes the cost was just too much." Explain this quote.
- 11. What can you learn from what Rabbit tells Harry about his magic. "This magic does not work from anger." (page 122) How does this speak to you about your gifts, talents, skills?
- 12. On the night of the talent show Harry takes the stage and says, "It's strange, being visitors in this world. As hard as we try, we don't quite get it. We see glimpses of something more. A deeper magic. I see it in my little brother's eyes. I see it in the beauty of the sunrise." How can you explain this quote?
- 13. Even though Harry chooses not to take revenge on Titus, Harry's friends do. They scheme together and rig the Haunted Cube to be dangerous. It catches fire with Titus trapped inside. Harry rushes to Titus's rescue. Discuss this in terms of peer pressure, friendship, bullying and what can happen when you let frustration or anger rule your heart.
- 14. Rabbit tells Harry that, "There is good everyone." (page 186). Do you believe this?



# LITERARY ELEMENTS DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS

All stories need certain literary elements to hold them together. Although there are many elements including PLOT, METAPHOR, CONFLICT, THEME etc., for the purpose of this study we have chosen five elements that will help readers gain an even greater and deeper understanding of *Wand-Paper-Scissors* and even apply these elements to other novels.

SETTING

Setting is the time and place from which a story is told.

Setting is important because it helps establish the mood and tone of the story.

A well-crafted setting gives readers a mental image of the place.

The great Southern writer, Eudora Welty said:

"Every story would be another story, and unrecognizable if it took up its characters and plot and happened somewhere else. Fiction depends for its life on place. Place is the crossroads of circumstance, the proving ground of: What happened? Who's here? Who's coming?"



# **Questions about Setting**

- 1. Alone or with a partner find the parts of the story that show setting. Be ready to share with the group what you found and why you think it deals with setting. What words or phrases helped you to "see" where the story takes place? Why do you think they helped you put yourself into the story?
- 2. What was your first impression of Sleepy Hollow?
  - You can ask kids to describe the town. Or even draw it.
  - You can ask what it might be like to walk down the streets.

- It's okay if they add stuff to the town that might not be in the story.
- Would you get your picture taken with the Headless Horseman statue?
- 3. Would you want to live in Sleepy Hollow?

At first in might seem fun to live in a town trapped in Halloween. But what does it really mean? What are the emotional, psychological and societal consequences? Is it possible to live in a town with constant reminders of death and evil and scary things like spiders and mummies and frightening sounds?

The townspeople try their best to be good citizens of Sleepy Hollow and maintain what we would consider normal routines. They go to school, restaurants, join Scouts, celebrate birthdays etc. while all around them there is bad mischief, most of the people prefer to do good.

Harry Moon and a few of his buddies formed the Good Mischief Team. They do acts of kindness and provide help to their neighbors—mowing lawns, unloading groceries, walking dogs etc.

#### The Good Mischief Team Creed

Only good mischief here.

No we are better than you or you're not good enough. Here we love kindness. We help others. We make friends stronger and have fun. There is no one cool. What we have is space for all. What we share is enough for everyone. Kids are causing the right kinds of trouble. We are raising heroes of the planet who decided to love the light and not be afraid of the dark. WE ARE THE GOOD MISCHIEF TEAM.

### **Good Mischief Matters**

What does it mean to do good mischief? While the word mischief usually means naughty behavior and troublemaking, especially in children, Harry Moon and his friends prefer to believe in and do Good Mischief.





Ask your students to list five attributes of how someone who practices good mischief behaves. For example:

- Show respect
- Have a good attitude
- Do your homework/study
- Be helpful
- Follow directions
- · Help Mother Earth
- Be a good listener
- · Obey the law
- Promote diversity and Inclusiveness
- You can't say you can't play



You don't live in a town trapped in Halloween. The thing is, we all live in a sometimes scary world where the news can be hard to listen to, schooldays can be difficult, friends will let you down or the school bully could be waiting in the playground.

One of the credos of the Good Mischief Team is: DON'T BE AFRAID OF THE DARK.

This is particularly difficult in Sleepy Hollow where the dark rules. The town is scary, filled with scary sounds and sights. In chapter one of *Wand-Paper-Scissors*, Harry is walking home and hears SLISH SLASH, SLISH SLASH. He is frightened by this sound.

Slish Slash. What was that noise? Harry turned. Someone must be following. But there was no one behind him. Harry was a few blocks from his house. The wind was so intense that it even rattled the picket fences lining the many homes on Walking Dead Lane. (*Wand-Paper-Scissors* page 10)

# Ask your students:

Why is this sound scarier to Harry than any others he's heard in Sleepy Hollow?



It could be that this sound is different from the ordinary scary sounds.

It could be that he had a sense of dread or danger.

Ask your students if they've ever experienced something similar:

This reminds me of a time when ...

Have you ever felt danger or dread? What was it like? What did you do? How did it turn out?

"It cannot be seen, cannot be felt, Cannot be heard, cannot be smelt,
It lies behind stars and under hills,
And empty holes it fills,
It comes first and follows after,
Ends life, kills laughter."

— J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit* 

"Fear of a name increases fear of the thing itself." — J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter* and the Sorcerer's Stone

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that."
Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

— Martin Luther King Jr., A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches

Harry likes to go to the Sleepy Hollow Magic Shoppe. This cheerful, little store run by his mentor, Samson Dupree is kind of an oasis in a great darkness.

# Ask your students:

Is there a place in your town you like to visit?



Maybe your students can think of several places that make you feel good or safe or might even speak to your particular gifts and interests. The library? A theater? Game store?

Everyone wants to feel safe in their own neighborhood. But that's not always the case and parents take precautions to keep children safe.





# Ask your students:

What do your parents do to keep you safe?

Harry Moon has Rabbit, an invisible (most of the time) source of comfort, inspiration and wisdom. When he is with Rabbit, Harry feels 100% safe.

The Good Mischief Team is also a place of safety for Harry.

# Ask your students:



Who makes you feel safe?

What makes you feel safe?

What can you do when you don't feel safe?

"If ever there is tomorrow when we're not together... there is something you must always remember. You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think. But the most important thing is, even if we're apart... I'll always be with you."

— A.A. Milne

# QUOTES FOR DISCUSSION



1. "There was plenty that was scary in Sleepy Hollow, including the gloomy town square and the Headless Horseman statue. There were weird, menacing creatures walking the sidewalks, just ready to creep you out. Even the streets had eerie names. Witch Broom Road. Conical Hat Avenue. Yes, there was a lot of which to be scared. At Sleepy Hollow Middle School, however, the scariest thing of all was the students."

The important part of this sentence is that middle school is more scary than the streets of Sleepy Hollow. What is so scary about middle school? Lots.

Discuss this situation about school.

2. "You'll know soon enough. Like me, you are a traveler, Harry. A tourist goes to a place and sees with his eyes. A traveler? He goes to a place and sees with his soul."

What is the difference between a **TOURIST** and a **TRAVELER**?

The words are used interchangeably but they actually are quite different. A tourist goes to the popular places, visits the popular sights, dines at the restaurants with the most stars. A traveler tends to search for places off the beaten track, get to know the locals and linger a little longer. The word traveler sounds a bit more romantic.

When Samson tells Harry he is a traveler he means that Harry isn't just going along with everyone else. He's seeking out the hidden places and darkest situations of Sleepy Hollow and looking at life there through his heart and soul, not just his eyes.

"The traveler sees what he sees. The tourist sees what he has come to see."

— G.K. Chesterton

"Not all those who wander are lost."

— J.R.R. Tolkien, *The* 

Fellowship of the Ring

"I address you all tonight for who you truly are: wizards, mermaids, travelers, adventurers, and magicians. You are the true dreamers."

— Brian Selznick, The Invention of Hugo Cabaret

# CHARACTER

It's tough to tell a story without characters. Most novels have a PROTAGONIST and an ANTAGONIST.

The protagonist is the main character and usually on the side of good. The protagonist or hero of the story always goes through some kind of change. A shy character learns to be assertive in the end. A conceited character learns humility. In *Wand-Paper-Scissors*, Harry Moon starts out a little doubtful about his abilities and is the target of Titus's bullying. In the end, Harry is confident and he and Titus have reached a kind of cautious friendship.



The antagonist can be just the opposite, on the side of bad or evil. At times the antagonist is more subtle, not always bad, and not obviously in the way of the main character. Sometimes the antagonist can be the main character's inner self—their thoughts, feelings and beliefs about who they are. An antagonist can even be the weather. In the Wizard of Oz, for example, the tornado was certainly an antagonist, driving Dorothy from her goal and sending her far away into the land of OZ.

Characterization is the method the author uses to expose or describe a characters' outer and inner qualities and personality. It usually doesn't happen all at once as authors choose to let the character emerge throughout the story.

Memorable characters live on even after the book has closed.

You can learn a lot about characters by paying close attention to the way the author describes or exposes them:

Physical traits

- Clothing
- Mannerisms or odd tics
- How they speak



### **Questions about Outer (public) Character**

- 1. In Wand-Paper-Scissors who is the main character (protagonist)?
  When is he introduced and what clues do you have that he is the main character?
  - What do you know about him?
  - Describe Harry.
  - Do you like Harry? Why or why not?

#### 2. What do you know about him?

- Harry is small for his age.
- Harry has a shock of ink-black hair.
- He is an amateur magician.
- He lives with his Mom, Dad, sister Honey and little brother Harvest.

- He is 13 years old.
- He is in eighth grade.
- Attends Sleepy Hollow Middle School.
- His best friend is an invisible rabbit.



# **Questions about Inner Characteristics**

# 1. What does the following passage tell you about Harry's inner qualities?

"That's funny," Harry said, wiggling out of Titus's grasp, "because I'll be on stage here Saturday night beating the pants off you!" Harry's stomach was churning, but he refused to reveal his fear to Titus Kligore." (page 6)

### 2. What does the following passage reveal about Titus's inner qualities?

"The wand thing," demanded Titus. "Give it!"

"It won't work for you. You're not a magician," said Harry as he clutched the almond wand to his chest.

"If it will work for you, it will work for me," insisted Titus, as he reached down to the ground. He grabbed Harry's neck in a vice grip with one and. With his other hand, he pulled the wand from Harry's grasp.

"Now let's see just how the magician is around here," said Titus. He waved the wand at Harry. "Aberkeydabya," he said. "Turn this geek to dog crap!" (page 80-81)

# 3. This next passage reveals something a little different about Harry. What is it?

Still, Harry played his game of counting Cheerios with his two-year-old brother.

"One," said Harry as he pushed the first Cheerio across the toddler's placemat. Harvest beamed as he snatched the first Cheerio and pushed it into his mouth.

"One!" echoed Harvest after he had successfully swallowed cereal circle number one. The game continued through number two and number three with Harry prompting. "That's a good boy," after each. (page 104)





4. Harry lost the Talent Show but he took it pretty well. What can you learn from the following scene that took place after the contest?

"Are you going to the weasel's party?" Declan asked Harry.

"I think I should show, don't you?" Harry shoved his hands into his pockets. "Good sportsmanship and all that."

"I think that's the right thing to do," Sarah said.

"Good sportsmanship?" Bailey asked. "From whom? Not that scum of a bully! 'Fire with fire' I say!"

"It just shows who is the bigger man," said Harry. "That's all." (page 164-165)

5. Harry Moon is a boy of good character. He is kind, generous, honest, etc. But one character trait stands out.

### **Harry Moon Has Courage**

6. Ask students to define courage.

The Merriam Webster Dictionary definition of courage: mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty

7. Ask students when they exhibited courage. Remember courage is in the small stuff also.

"It takes a great deal of bravery to stand up to our enemies, but just as much to stand up to our friends."

— J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

"It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are."

— E.E. Cummings

8. Harry shows courage when he rescues Titus from the Haunted Cube. Can you find other times when Harry demonstrated courage? Courage doesn't always show up in big scenes. "Courage is found in unlikely places."

— J.R.R. Tolkien

"I am not afraid of storms for I am learning to sail my ship."

— Louisa May Alcott

# 9. Just about every protagonist or hero is flawed in some way or has a weakness. Even Superman had his Kryptonite. What flaws or weaknesses do you see in Harry Moon?

Harry does have his weaknesses. For one thing he complains about his name and lets it bother him sometimes. And he does take some heat for it. Honey's name is not exactly safe either!

Literature and movies abound with flawed characters. Nobody wants to read about perfect people or see perfect people on the big screen. It's because we are all flawed, we all make mistakes, we all have weaknesses. It's part of the human equation and reading about flawed characters helps us understand ourselves and not feel alone. It's good to be able to say: "Oh, she does that too! Maybe I'm ok after all."

"Friendship ... is born at the moment when one man says to another "What! You too? I thought that no one but myself . . ."

— C.S. Lewis, The Four Loves

List some fictional characters and their flaws, or weaknesses.

CHARACTER	FLAW or WEAKNESS
Superman	Kryptonite
Harry Potter	Arrogance and Anger
Tom Riddle	Fear of Death
Jo March	Temper
Maximus Kligore	Arrogance, Superiority
Frodo	Self-doubt
Scarlet O'Hara	Conceit, Childish

10. For every protagonist there is an antagonist. Who is the ANTAG-ONIST in *Wand-Paper-Scissors*? Support your answer by citing the text.



The simple answer to this question is Titus Kligore.

What do you know about him?

How does Titus make you feel?

### 11. Titus and Maximus Kligore are bullies.

A member of the Good Mischief Team learns to deal with bullies. One of the things Harry did was to try and make Titus his friend. Harry showed kindness when he rescued him from the Haunted Cube.

Of course, students should never put themselves in danger.

### 12. Who is Rabbit?

Rabbit is a very interesting character in *Wand-Paper-Scissors* as well as the entire series. He was a gift from Samson Dupree through Harry's friend, Sarah.

#### Rabbit is:

- A source of comfort for Harry (page 122-123)
- A source of wisdom and inspiration (page 65, page 99)
- He helps Harry find courage (page 186)
- He is Harry's conscience at times (page 96)
- He is an ally and mentor (page 99)

Rabbit is an ALLY. An ally is a literary archetype--a universal symbol found over and over again in story. The ally archetype travels along with the hero, maybe takes a bullet for them. Gandalf in The Lord of The Rings is an ally. Ron Weasley in Harry Potter is an ally. The Tin Man, Scarecrow, and Cowardly Lion are all allies for Dorothy in *The Wizard of OZ*.

It's good to know we don't have to travel alone.

### Ask your students:

Who are your allies?

What does it mean to have an ally?



"Piglet sidled up to Pooh from behind.

"Pooh!" he whispered.

"Yes, Piglet?"

"Nothing," said Piglet, taking Pooh's paw. "I just wanted to be sure of you."

— A.A. Milne, The House at Pooh Corner

13. By telling Harry he needs new tricks Honey is also telling him that she understands he needs something more powerful to defeat Titus Kligore and his group. She understands the power of evil in the community. On a grander scale, she is telling Harry that in order to defeat Mayor Kligore he will need to dig deeper and learn more Deep Magic.

But why can't Honey see Rabbit? What do you learn about her?

It is because she's not ready. Not yet. Honey is still learning to recognize the more mystical aspects of life. Sometimes kids are just not ready to learn a new subject.

# You can ask your students:

- What school subjects are difficult?
- What was it like to finally understand a difficult concept?
- Do you remember when you started to read? Was it hard at first?
- What about video games? Remember how difficult they were at first but now your thumbs fly around the controller without looking.

#### **Good Mischief Matters**

When an author introduces a character they usually include some physical descriptors—height, hair and eye color, that sort of thing. And that's important. It helps the reader visualize the character and get to know them. But it doesn't end there, the characters' personality, their likes and dislikes, hobbies, attitudes, beliefs, all that internal stuff is divvied out as the story progresses. So it's usually not a good idea to form an opinion of a character until you are further into a book. Like they say, you shouldn't judge a book by its cover.

It's a good life lesson—not to judge a person by appearance. And a member of





the Good Mischief Team tries hard to treat all people fairly and not rush to judgment. As the Good Mischief Team Creed reads:

No one is cool. We make friends stronger.

Making a friend stronger means looking past appearances and looking at the person on the inside—getting to know him or her on a deeper level.

# QUOTES FOR DISCUSSION



 "It's strange being here, don't you think?" he asked the crowd as he walked across the stage. "The mystery never leaves us."
 Mary Moon shuddered, "Oh no." Her grasp on her husband's hand went tighter. "What is he doing?"

"I'm not quite sure, sweetheart," said John, the effervescent encourager of his son.

"I'm not speaking of this stage," said Harry, addressing the audience. "I am speaking of the wonderful mystery of life."

"It's strange, being visitors in this world. As hard as we try, we don't quite get it. We see glimpses of something more. A deeper magic. I see it in my little brother 's eyes. I see it in the beauty of the sunrise." (page 143-144)

Harry is trying to explain something we have all felt. Something magical and set apart. It is a feeling that is recognizable in a sunset for some, or a walk in the woods or holding a baby.



Voice and viewpoint in fiction has to do with the narrator—the person telling the story. What is his or her attitude toward the subject and characters? Wand-Paper-Scissors is told from an omniscient view point. In other words the narrator knows everything that is going on in the story—the narrator can see around corners and write about what is going on in every character's head.

Voice can also pertain to the characters in the story. Sometimes a reader can learn a great deal about a character by the way they talk, favorite phrases and tone.

### Who is telling this story?

- Although never named, this story is told by an omniscient narrator. The author knows everything at all times. By using this technique the author is able to see everything that is going on in Sleepy Hollow and tell about it.
  - By using the omniscient viewpoint, the author is able to tell things about Harry and the other characters that they wouldn't necessarily tell. For example the narrator tells the reader about how Harry got his name in the form of a flashback
- · What do you think about his name?
- How can Harry handle the mocking he sometimes gets?
- Even though he was named in honor of his Dad's friend, the name Harrold is an Old English name which means, army ruler or to wield power. The name serves Harry well as he does wield power by using his magical gifts.
- Do you know why your parents gave you your name?

#### **Good Mischief Matters**

Harry and Honey Moon were given names that can be hard to live with. Harry even wanted to change his after some bullying. But, of course, his father denied the request.

Names provide us with a personal identity, and even uniqueness. It is generally the first thing we say when we are introduced, "Hi, this is my friend, Harry Moon." Or it is the first thing we say when we meet someone. "Hi, my name is Honey Moon." The world would be quite a mess if we all had the same name.

Naming things also has a different meaning. In the first Harry Potter book, no one wanted to say the name, Voldemort—he was just too evil. But later in the story Harry learns that refusing to name the things we are most afraid of, gives those things more power.





"I read in a book once that a rose by any other name would smell as sweet, but I've never been able to believe it. I don't believe a rose WOULD be as nice if it was called a thistle or a skunk cabbage."

— L.M. Montgomery, Anne of Green Gables

"Call him Voldemort, Harry. Always use the proper name for things. Fear of a name increases fear of the thing itself."

— J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Names can also harm. Bullies like to call their victims by hurtful names.

"Sticks and stones may break my bones but names can never hurt me," goes the old adage. But we all know this is not true. There's something about being called a nasty name that sticks with a person.

This is a good place to talk to your student about getting called a nasty name.

Write down the feelings associated with the name-calling.

Thanks to the narrator, the reader also learns that Harry Moon's mother, Mary Moon was visited by a mysterious wizard shortly after Harry was born. This wizard was eccentric and odd and told Mary that Harry has a great destiny and she will need to let him go and workout that destiny on his own. He also told Mary that he would send Harry a helper—namely Rabbit.

# Ask your students:

- Why do you think the narrator thought this information was important to the reader?
- Can you put yourself in Mary's shoes?
- What would you think?
- Do you think it was necessary for the reader to be told so plainly that Harry was the chosen one—the one to become the hero of Sleepy Hollow?

The narrator also says this about Mary:

"Over time, Mary Moon had resigned herself to the knowledge that Harry would sometimes need to go places and do things before she was ready to let him."

This is one of those places in the story where the narrator is not in Harry's head or in anyone's head really. The narrator is giving important information to the reader.

## Ask your students:

Has your mom or dad ever let you do something even though they weren't sure you were ready for?

How did that make you feel? How did it turn out?

The narrator of Harry Moon knows everything about every character.

### Ask your students:

Would you want that kind of power?
Why or why not?



The THEME of a novel or story is the work's view on life or human behavior. The theme of the *Wizard of Oz* is "there's no place like home."

Theme is not:

A summary of the story.

"Studying themes like trust, integrity, and honesty," says Rachel Claff, editorial director for the Great Books Foundation, "builds thoughtful world citizens and friends, the kinds of thinkers you want to have in your classroom."

One goal with teaching theme, explains Jodi Libretti of the Great Books Foundation, is to encourage students "not only to think about ways that they can live, but the type of person they want to become."

Sometimes students can have a difficult time stating the theme of a novel. Help you readers to understand the difference between what the story is about and





the author's deeper messages. Or MEssages. Or TheME. What does this story have to do with me or teach me?

One way to help readers discover the theme is to ask how the main character changed by the end of the book. In *Wand-Paper-Scissors*, Harry Moon started out wanting to win the talent show and seeking revenge on Titus. Ask student how this changed?

By the end of the story, Harry was OK with not winning and no longer wanted revenge on Titus.

### The theme of Wand-Paper-Scissors is

Practicing goodness and kindness is one way to help a bully change.

The author used the follow concepts, ideas, and experiences to help Harry change.

- Kindness Harry is kind through out the story but it is not the theme
- Courage—Harry demonstrates courage and is courageous in the end and it helps him play out theme but it is not the theme.
- Good vs. Evil Yes, there is a lot of Good vs. Evil in the story but it only serves as a backdrop for Harry to workout the true theme.
- Compassion Although Harry demonstrates compassion in the end it is not the main theme.

### A Discussion on Bullying in Wand-Paper-Scissors

In the first chapter of *Wand-Paper-Scissors*, Titus Kligore tries to bully Harry out of performing in the Scary Talent Show.

Titus thinks he can throw his size and family around to bully Harry out of performing in the talent show. He even goes so far as to cut Harry's off before the talent show.

It can be hard to talk about bullying, especially if someone in your room is being bullied. But it is, nevertheless an important topic.

Describe Titus. Ask your students to not only describe Titus but maybe do a little role-playing. One student can play Titus, the other, Harry.

Titus is big, tall and menacing looking. He is also the mayor's son so his position in the community just gives him more power.

Why do some kids become bullies? Would you say that Titus is conflicted?

There are many reasons kids become bullies. Titus could never please his father and as a result his father was very hard on him. Titus threw his size around and bullied in order to compensate or make his father proud.

Titus Kligore is a bully. No doubt about it. And Harry Moon is his prey. But the thing about Titus is that he is the kind of bully we like to read about most—the ambiguous bully. Oh, we enjoy characters like Mayor Kligore or Miss Trunchbull who are seeming all bad all the time, but a bully like Titus is more relatable.

Titus is conflicted and allows us to see both his bad side—which is often and pretty bad—and his good side which is vulnerable and searching. Harry sees his good side also and chooses to exploit it for Titus's own good.

And like many bullies, Titus's behavior is a kind of acting out to please his father who is of course the epitome of all that is bad.

Ask the students if they can think of other bullies in books and what they think of them.

Draco Malfoy Julian in Wonder Lucy Van Pelt – the football gag

Reading about bullies in a story helps us workout real-life strategies for dealing with real-life bullies.

Is there a difference between Titus's behavior toward Harry and the way Harry's friends behaved after the Talent Show? Did they resort to bullying tactics?





# **Good Mischief Matters**

Members of the Good Mischief Team do not resort to bully tactics. It is a hallmark of the Good Mischief Team that they promote diversity and inclusiveness. You can't say you can't play if you a re a member of the Good Mischief Team.

A member of The Good Mischief Team looks for safe ways to deal with bullies.

"I wish every day could be Halloween. We could all wear masks all the time. Then we could walk around and get to know each other before we got to see what we looked like under the masks."

— R.J. Palacio, Wonder

This could be a good opportunity to discuss how kids can best respond to a bully.

- Tell a trusted adult
- Walk away
- If it feels safe say, "STOP"
- Keep your cool
- Do not get into a fight

Name other ways to deal with a bully.

Harry demonstrates courage in several ways throughout the story. But what is courage? You can ask your students to define courage.

"It takes a great deal of bravery to stand up to our enemies, but just as much to stand up to our friends."

— J.K. Rowling

#### **Good Mischief Matters**

Courage. Students need courage almost every day in many different ways. For one child it might be finding the courage to deliver an oral report. For another, it might be finding the courage to walk past the class bully in the hallway. And for others it could be about finding courage to face a difficult home life.

When a student reads about a character who is demonstrating courage they are learning what it takes to be brave. Stories are a kind of rehearsal for how to overcome and how to react in certain situations. Harry Moon knows Titus is a bully and it takes courage to face him. But is it possible that running into him on the street was easier than mustering the courage to jump into the haunted cube and rescue his nemesis?

As a member of the Good Mischief Team, Harry understands that the principles they live by are not meant just for the good times, for the good people—it applies to all people. And that takes courage.

No student should ever put himself or herself in danger just to prove they have courage. Courage is not about that all the time. Courage is about facing a fear, talking to a new student who might appear a little different. It's about following the rules and doing what is right even when others are egging you on to do the wrong thing.

Ask your students what it means to have courage?

List them and hang them on the wall.

The thing is, you can read about courage and learn about how to be courageous but you can never really be sure if you have it until you need it.

"Courage is the most important of all the virtues because without courage, you can't practice any other virtue consistently."

— Maya Angelou

"It is not the strength of the body that counts, but the strength of the spirit." — J.R.R. Tolkien

One of the larger motifs of *Wand-Paper-Scissors* is GOOD vs. EVIL. Harry is destined to battle Maximus Kligore and keep the mayor's vile plans from coming to fruition. Harry is the hero of Sleepy Hollow. Many books share this theme.

In the world of Harry Moon, good and evil are readily defined. Harry is on the side of good. Titus, although conflicted, is on the side of evil. The mayor is most certainly evil. But good is ultimately stronger than evil. The dark is destroyed by the light.



# Start a debate:

Why is there evil in the world?

There's no escaping it. There is evil in the world.

Rabbit often reminds Harry of this.

"There will always be trouble in the world," Rabbit said. "That is why the world needs heroes."

One of the slogans on the Good Mischief tee-shirts is: DO NO EVIL

Ask your students why that is an important reminder. And why do kids need to be reminded to DO NO EVII.

- Maybe the slogan speaks more to the folks reading it.
- Maybe the slogan is a reminder to others that evil deeds like bullying are never acceptable.
- Maybe the slogan immediately identifies the wearer as someone who is attempting to do the right thing, to make good and wise choices.

There will always be trouble in our world but there also will always be heroes—from first-responders to the military to the student who stands up for another student.

Ask your students: What does it mean to be a hero?

A hero is not just a person who puts themselves in harms way or performs an act of extreme courage. A hero is someone who possesses qualities that can be admired.

Ask your students: Who is your hero?

# QUOTES FOR DISCUSSION



1. The protocol for the contest was to be polite, demonstrating good sportsmanship. Anyone not adhering to the rules would be suspended from the show. Harry was not about to be a Titus-snitch because no one liked

snitches at Sleepy Hollow Middle School. Sometimes a snitch was thought to be even worse than a bully.

When is it okay to tell an adult about a bully?

How hard is it to tell on someone who is acting like a bully?

2. Honey got a closer look at Harry's shirt when his cape moved. "Do. No

Evil, "Honey said, reading the words slowly as if for effect. "That's just good common sense. Are you saying that is magic?"

"No," Harry said. "The phrase is more for me than for anyone else . . . to remind me of something I should never forget." DO NO EVIL

What does that mean for kids?

What can kids do to remember this?

3. Someone from the third row (they say it was one of Titus's gang) was the first. With a shout of "Bravo!" he started to clap furiously. The theater was filled with shouts of appreciation and thunderous applause, which seemed to go on forever.

Harry had given them the show they had come for.

"Do no evil" was what they wanted to do, after all. Even though

it was sometimes hard, people wanted to do good. As Harry Moon said, "There

is deep magic in all of us."

What does Harry mean when he says, "There is deep magic in all of us."





# TAKING IT HOME

The great thing about a story is the way it relates to the reader's world and the reader's life. So often a book is the first places a child learns they are not alone, that someone else shares their feelings. *Wand-Paper-Scissors* is chock full of universal feelings and ideas. Stories are powerful.

# **Discussion Questions**

Harry's kid sister, Honey sometimes barges her way into his room and even into his life. She likes to make sarcastic remarks and act like a know-it-all.

How does Harry handle her? Would you do anything different? Is there someone in your life who acts like this?

Not every kid is going to have a kid sister or brother or even an older sibling who interferes with their life. But it is fair to say that every kid knows someone who annoys them. What strategies can kids put in place to deal with this?

Bullying is a topic for discussion and a problem in every school across the country. What did you learn about how to handle a bully from reading Wand-Paper-Scissors?

The idea of bullying has come up a lot during this study. What are three things kids can take away from Harry Moon to encourage or help when they are faced with a bullying situation?

- Tell a trusted adult.
- Tell a friend.
- Do not engage a bully.
- Understand that bullies don't speak truth. A kid's worth is not in what a bully says. Harry didn't always have a firm grasp on this but he usually found his way back, often thanks to Rabbit.

#### **BECOME A HERO**

In what ways can kids become heroes?

Heroes are pretty much everywhere. This is a good place to end the discussion of *Wand-Paper-Scissors* and talk about the ways your kids can be heroic in their everyday lives. Remember, being a hero doesn't mean running into a burning building. There are small ways to be a hero.

In Wand-Paper-Scissors we read:

When Harry heard the lie that Clooney told everyone about his welts, he thought about how unfair life could be. Rabbit was right. These were troubled times. Maybe there will always be trouble, thought Harry. So why not try and be a hero?

Start a debate or play devil's advocate.
Why should Harry want to be a hero if the world is so troubled?

Harry nodded. He knew Rabbit spoke truth. "Sarah. Harry," Rabbit continued. "I am going to break it to you gently—having a friend like me has its consequences."

What does this quote mean in context with the story?

He would choose the deep magic that was in him, magic that would continue to grow like Rabbit told him, magic that was in all of us if only we had the soul to see it. That day, Harry no longer felt like a tourist who saw only with his eyes. He was a traveler who also saw with his spirit. That day, the world looked good. So did Titus. Rabbit was right. There was goodness in every one of us.

Deep magic. What does Deep Magic mean?

In Narnia, the Deep Magic is a set of laws established by the emperor across the sea at the time of creation. The Deeper Magic is the laws carved on stone. In Harry Moon the Deep magic is similar. It is a set of values that Harry is learning to live out. Values that will ultimately bring him to a place of WHOLESOMNESS.

In the Harry Moon books, WHOLESOMNESS is possessing physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. We are not just mind and body. We are also spirit. Honoring the Deep Magic will lead to wholesomeness in all three spheres.

It's hard to let your deep magic shine sometimes. How many ways can your kids list to be like Harry and Honey and strive to let their deep magic shine and live a wholesome life?







# YOU DON'T SAY!

This is an activity will really put your student's observation skills to the test. It can be a lot of fun also!

For a larger group, 10 or more, break up into two teams and choose a team leader.

Set a timer for 5 minutes.

The team leader will choose one object in the room and write it down.

Students will then begin describing the object without naming it. The more adjectives the better. But they must also use one metaphor or simile in their description and write in full sentences.

When the timer is finished the team leader will read their paragraph describing the object and the other team has 1 minute to correctly name the object.

Switch teams.

#### THE HARRY MOON RABBIT POEM

Ask students to fill in the blanks. When they finish they will have a poem. They can also draw a picture of Rabbit to go along with it.

Rabbit's fur is . . .
Rabbit's ears are . . .
Rabbit is like . . .
Rabbit makes me feel . . .



#### **TRIVIA CONTEST**

Using the trivia questions in the guide put on a trivia contest. Divide into teams or with a smaller group it could be pairs or individual. Ask the questions and the first team or person to "buzz in" gets to answer. Wrong answer? The opposing team or individual gets to answer.

You could have prizes.

#### **MAKE A CHARACTER**

Ask students to introduce a new character to Sleepy Hollow. Remember it's always Halloween in Sleepy Hollow.

Students can draw their character or write a description.

Ask students to share their characters.

# **MAKE A HALLOWEEN CARD**

Students will need construction paper and markers or crayons and whatever arts and crafts supplies that apply.

Using Sleepy Hollow and the story's character as your guide, make a Halloween card for a friend or family member.

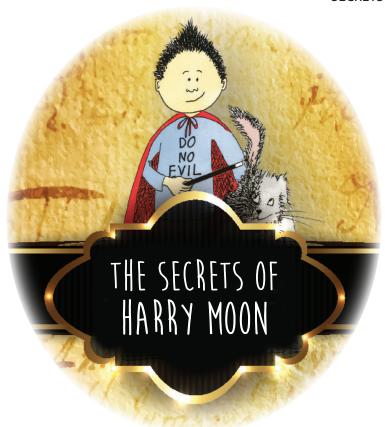
For example, a student could draw a picture of Harry or Honey pulling Rabbit out of a hat. Trick or treat!

A student could draw a picture of Mayor Kligore's Phantom Lustro car. Driving up to say Happy Halloween.

Draw Harry Moon with the magic wand. He says, ABRACADABRA. On the inside: POOF! Have a happy Halloween!







"Deeper meaning resides in the fairytales told me in my childhood than in any truth that is taught in life."

— Johann Christoph Friedrich von Schiller ~ Author of *Ode to Joy* 

A story is the best way to say what needs to be said. Characters working their way through a series of conflicts is, on the surface, entertainment. But just about every story has deep secrets or larger themes built inside just waiting to be uncovered. This is what C. S. Lewis referred to as, "the bubbling." Secrets that make the story meaningful, important and even life-changing. Here's a kind of behind-the pages look at some of the top secrets you can uncover in Sleepy Hollow.

At the start of the story Harry has one goal—to win the annual scary talent show at school. But in order to do this he knows, in no small thanks to his sister, Honey, that he will need better, bigger tricks if he is going to win against school favorite Titus Kligore.

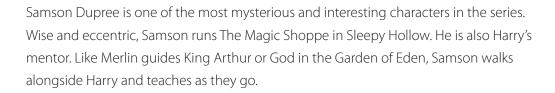
The thing about Titus is that he is not only actually talent, he is the evil mayor's son. A definite advantage when it comes to winning since Mayor Kligore will stop at nothing to see his family succeed—if it suits his larger goals for Sleepy Hollow. Titus is also a bully and Harry's worst nightmare.

Titus has some fear that Harry might have a chance at defeating him and sets out to bully him into quitting, even going so far as to cut his hair off—thinking that would shame him into giving up. It doesn't.

Harry Moon is determined. But Honey is correct when she says, "Truth is hard. Let's face it, Harry. You need better tricks." (page 27)

And so, Harry sets out to find those better tricks. His first stop is to The Sleepy Hollow Magic Shoppe to speak to his teacher and mentor, Samson Dupree.

# **Samson Dupree**



Harry took an instant liking to Samson on his first visit to The Magic Shoppe. Samson respects Harry's position and role in the great scheme. Although a powerful magician himself, Samson cannot defeat Kligore on his own—only Harry can do that.

So it is up to Samson Dupree to teach Harry about magic. Samson is the one who gave Rabbit, through Sarah to Harry.

Samson provided Harry with his first REAL magic wand, even though Harry had to make that choice of his own free will. Harry chose wisely—the wand made from Almond wood.

"Very good, my Harry. You did not choose the illusion of the holly wood nor the poison of the yew. You chose well. You have chosen right. You should know from your studies that with this powerful and ancient wand comes great responsibility." (page 44)

Samson also knows pretty much everything that goes on Sleepy Hollow right down to when the next dance at the middle school will be held. He is there when Harry needs him and provides him with the tools—a magic orb, a flying carpet, and a cloak of invisibility when necessary.

But Samson is also more than a teacher of magic to Harry. He also helps Harry with some of life's most perplexing issues—sibling rivalry—Harry's sister, Honey can be a handful at times. Harry even talks to Samson about love and his undying love for Sarah Sinclair.





Samson Dupree, in his purple cloak and golden grown, and red velvet slippers, is never far from any danger might find. He might be watching from a distance but he is close enough in body and in spirit for Harry should he ever need a little new magic or a listening heart. And Harry will always know that Samson is watching whenever he hears the little bells on The Magic Shoppe door ring.

Yet, Samson knew of Harry even before he was born. As a literary archetype Samson holds a few places. He is a a mentor, a bit of shape shifter if necessary and even a parent. Samson is like Gandalf of *The Lord of the Rings* and has been charged to protect Harry on his quest to defeat Mayor Kligore and restore order and light to Sleepy Hallow.

In Halloween Nightmares, Samson meets Mary Moon shortly after Harry's birth. In his own, coy way, he informs Mary that her son is special, a chosen one. Of course Mary is alarmed at first but Samson soothes her concerns because Harry can be in no safer place than in the care of Samson Dupree. Samson does, of course, tell Mary that her roll will be great.

#### **Mary Moon**

A mother's relationship with her son is the most important ingredient in raising boys with character. Given Harry's identity in leading Sleepy Hollow out if its Halloween nightmare, his relationship with Mary Moon is central to the series.

Mary is not blind to Harry's calling as the hero of Sleepy Hollow. After all, Samson Dupree met with her shortly after Harry's birth and pretty much told her this. Which of course, gives Samson another archetypal name—Herald. Samson paved the way for Harry, in a sense, making certain his mother knew that he was gifted and destined for greatness.

"She has been putting qualities into David, altering him, turning forever on a lathe since the day she first knew him, and indeed long before, an all so deftly that he is still called a child of nature."

— J.M. Barrie, The Little White Bird

Mary wrestles with her secret and keeps it hidden in her heart, accepting Harry's calling without knowing where it will lead. Rabbit appears to Mary to help and encourage her. When she watches him go off on his bike headed into the certain of Kligore's evil ambitions she, like any mother, feels concern and fear, but she lets him go—knowing it will be OK. Still she'll cry and maybe hug him tighter when he arrives home knowing what

he had just been through.

She knows her role is important. Rabbit tells her so. It's Mary's job to raise and nurture Harry, to guide and teach and raise a man in a difficult world. Rabbit often reminds Mary that, like all heroes he must make the journey alone—that's not to say he won't have help

along the way—we've already seen that. But in the end every hero acts alone. Even Frodo at the mouth of Mount Doom acted alone. Samwise might have carried him up the mountain but it was Frodo who had to open his hand let fall the one ring.

Rabbit explains that it is her job to turn the pages of his life. To follow her heart and not always her head. To follow the Spirit.

Mary does of course, have two other children, a husband, and a dog to care for. She is careful not to let any of them feel left out or second best. She teaches them all how to become good citizens and models moral behavior. She often remarks about the stenciling around the dining room wall—she points out the words and makes certain Harry understands their meaning. These words: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control are of course the Fruit of the Spirit—although the thing about story sometimes is that it's not always necessary to come right out and say so.

Although she is fully aware of Harry's destiny and heroic future, she is not afraid to lay down the law and discipline Harry. He is still a thirteen-year-old boy. Harry seems to enjoy talking to his mother about pretty much anything—even love. Harry and Mary do have an amazing relationship—something we don't always see in fantasy literature. Mothers are often absent. But, even still, Harry does and will make his journey alone with Mary watching from the sidelines.

As a literary archetype, Mary, like Samson, plays dual roles. She is both mentor and ally—a trusted friend who can offer advice, constructive criticism and support.

Mary Moon is special in many ways. She works as a healer—a registered nurse and she takes care of her family. She has a huge heart with plenty of love to go around but she also feels the agony of raising children or finding the way to let her children go and become the people they were intended to become.

Toward that goal as well as Harry's goal to get "better tricks" Harry receives a gift—Rabbit—from his friend Sarah Sinclair.





#### Rabbit

Rabbit, a large Harlequin bunny—mostly white with black markings and one ear that dropped more than the other is Harry's guide, teacher, guru, a second mentor through the series. Rabbit didn't hide out in Harry's magic hat all day. Rabbit came alongside. Where Harry went, Rabbit went. Rabbit is a representation of Harry's inner life—his conscience and moral compass. Rabbit is invisible, unless he chooses to show himself. But having a relationship with Rabbit isn't all fun and games. Like he says, there's consequences. Rabbit is quick to call Harry out when he is about to do something foolish, but he is also respectful of Harry's free will.

It's not like Rabbit enjoys saying, "I told you so." But he does make it clear that his way is the best way. Just as Jiminy Cricket did for Pinocchio. Rabbit gives Harry the strength to remain faithful and confident in his calling as the hero of Sleepy Hollow.

Rabbit tends to come and go—even leaving Harry, at least physically, for a time while Harry works things through. But he is always there when the chips are down. He tells Harry, "I got your back."

Rabbit is careful to develop very deliberately the strength and character of Harry and consistently encourages him to remain faithful and confident in his calling as the hero of Sleepy Hollow.

Harry is ready to meet the challenges—most of the time. After all, he is still a thirteen-year-old boy. But what better friend to have than Rabbit rising on your handlebars.

Inside Harry's story and his quest to win the talent show are many other themes and ideas or secrets that bubble up.

Harry and his friends face situations that cause them to consider things like Self-Control

# Respect for Authority, Friendship, Bullying, Courage and being True to Self.

Of course Harry's trouble with Titus is legendary in the series. Right from the start, Titus flexes his bullying muscles when he grabs Harry by the collar outside the cafeteria (page 5). The stage is set and the reader understands that Titus is not going to stop his bullying ways. Harry stands up for himself, which is good. But he does kind of let Titus get to him when Titus cuts his hair off in an attempt to break his spirit and shame him into dropping out of the contest. Harry's response is to seek revenge. He thinks his magic can cause harm to Titus but Rabbit gives him a lesson in **SELF-CONTROL**.

"I want to destroy that guy," Harry muttered, fuming. He clenched his fists at the mirror and sneered. "I'm going to zing him—wand or no wand. He's the be who won't be showing up tomorrow night."

But Rabbit reminds him, "Your magic doesn't work that way." (page 96)

Then Rabbit takes Harry into their dining room and shows him the words of wisdom stenciled on the wall. One of those words is self-control. Harry chooses to control his anger and, after a fitful night, decides the best way forward is to DO NO EVIL.

Even in the end, when he is disqualified from the contest and Titus is crowned the victor Harry maintains his control, choosing again to DO NO EVIL. Which was quite brave considering that his friends decide to exact revenge in Harry's honor.

But who turns out to be the better friend, or the more responsible friend. While Harry's friends might believe they are doing something cool, Harry declines their invitation to join in and accepts the judges' decision with grace and respect.

The selectman from the judges' table came up to the group. "Your show was spectacular, young man," he said, as he reached out and shook Harry's hand. "I'm sorry that the rules could not allow for the appropriate public acknowledgment."

"Thank you, sir," Harry said with a smile. (page 165)

It didn't mean Harry sucked in his feelings and just took it. He knew it was the wise response and he also knew it was OK to tell a trusted friend how he felt. Which is why a little later he's able to express his disappointment to Sarah. Afterwards Harry goes to Titus's party at Chillie Willies. He goes because it demonstrates good-sportsmanship. (page 164).

His friends do not back down from their scheme even though Harry was not on-board. Unfortunately there plan gets out of control and the Haunted Cube catches fire, trapping Titus inside. Harry knew what he needed to do. And as is often the case in hero quest stories, Harry was the one to save his tormentor. Harry demonstrated great courage in this moment he climbs on the flaming machine and finds a way to save Titus.





"You have plenty of courage, I am sure," answered Oz.

"All you need is confidence in yourself.

There is no living thing that is not afraid when it faces danger.

The true courage is in facing danger when you are afraid,

and that kind of courage you have in plenty."

— L. Frank Baum, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* 

Harry needed to trust himself and his MAGIC.

# Harry Moon's Magic

Harry Moon is a magician. He always liked magic tricks—the kinds that come in a box with instructions. He practices as much as he can and his favorite magician of all time was Elvis Gold. Harry enjoys putting on magic shows at neighborhood birthday parties and other events and always adding new tricks to his arsenal. It's pretty average, garden-variety magic—sleight-of-hand, disappearing girl etc. But this magic is not powerful. It is only illusion and will never defeat evil. Like all heroes, Harry needs a more powerful weapon. Like Luke Skywalker has The Force, King Arthur has Excalibur, Harry Moon has his Magic.

He uses it in confrontation with Kligore's dark magic—which is also all too real. Sometimes Harry gets into conversations with his dad about magic. John Moon thinks it's malarkey, but Harry is quick to point out that it is a gift and uniquely tied-into Harry's imagination.

Harry wields this power carefully. Like all fantasy novels, the use of magic is limited. There are set rules that surround its use. Harry cannot use this magic to hurt anyone or for his own gain. His intentions need to be righteous and pure. Nor can he use this magic to simply put an end to Kligore's reign. Samson Dupree plays a significant role in helping Harry to learn the limits and breadth of his magic. Samson teaches him "new tricks" when the time is right and provides magical tools to aid Harry.

One of those tools is Harry's magic wand, which he always carries in his back pocket—just in case. This magic wand or Wand as Harry likes to call it is made from wood, simple almond wood. Cut from the tree it is now dead. It is only powerful when it is wielded with courage, self-control and pure motives.

Like a young Merlin, Harry studies the Grimoire (a book of magic and history) given to him by Samson. Harry's good magic is the only thing that can defeat Kligore's dark mag-

ic which really isn't magic but a corruption of what already exists.

All fiction is a search for the truth, not necessarily facts. So it might be fact that no one can wave a magic wand and make the town bully float in mid air. The truth is that children are not powerless and victory is possible. In order to enjoy any novel, the reader must be willing to "suspend belief" and enter into a different world and believe that all things are possible. Harry believes this. He knows he is up against a mighty foe but he also knows he carries a big sword and can cast magic.

Nothing can drive out darkness but light and that what Harry has—in abundance.

Magic and might—not brute force. Titus had no trouble physically putting Harry in his place. But Harry has something much stronger that Titus. He has goodness, light and mercy and self-control.

Harry needed, in the end when he chose to save Titus, to be true to his self—a kid who would rather make friends than enemies, who puts others first and demonstrates true friendship. Harry's act of sacrifice does not go unnoticed. Titus is grateful to Harry and even suggests the two might be on the road to friendship.

Titus quotes Abraham Lincoln, "The best way to get rid of an enemy is to make him your friend." (page 201)

But Harry doesn't just accept Titus's olive branch, not exactly. He does allow the door to be opened. "Okay, Titus," Harry said. "Let's work on it. Let's start today. In our little town of Sleepy Hollow, there's plenty of trouble, so let's try to work together." (page 202)

Working together isn't just for the good guys. Maximus Kligore has his own kind of friends to help the spread of fear and evil in Sleepy Hollow.

# Maximus Kligore's Henchmen

Minions. Henchmen. Toadies. Every villain needs a few. For Maximus Kligore, Oink and Ug and other hounds of Hell fill that role with panache and even a bit of humor. As literary archetypes these guys are allies and tricksters. They seem to appear at random from nowhere and perhaps they do. There number one duty is to serve at the pleasure of the mayor. They are more than happy and willing to do his bidding although, like most villains, Kligore delights in cuffing them around a bit. He exerts his superiority over them every chance he gets although one can't help but wonder if, these two characters might have greater designs on Kligore. Every so often in the series Oink seems to care for Harry



even though his job is to foil Harry's plans every chance he gets.

Oink's favorite persona is that of an innocent, little, old, lady. He hopes that this disguise will fool Harry every time but it never does. Evil has a stench about it and so does Oink. Harry has no trouble calling Oink out and exposing him for who he truly is—an evil hound of Hell.

Ug, on the other hand, is a bit less obvious. He is a rat, after all, able to move about in his rat tunnels all across Sleepy Hollow. Ug is pretty disgusting. He is totally smitten with Kligore and treats him like a king. Ug is too willing to take Kligore's insults and abuse. He really is a sad character. Ug most definitely has plans to move up in the evil ranks. Ug is a spy who only wants to please his master—but he's not very good at his job all the time. His primary responsibility is to scurry about Sleepy Hollow, in a sense devouring who he will, and report back to Kligore. Of course, his main target is Harry Moon.

Oink and Ug have a way of bringing the story down to size. Where Kligore is large and powerful and Harry cannot get to him with ease. Oink and Ug are available for physical confrontation. When Harry and Oink—who is small like a bull dog—spar on the street or at the park their confrontation brings the story to eye level. As Christopher Vogler would say, "down to earth." They are the bite-sized manifestation of Kligore's ego.

Trickster's have another role—they provide much needed comic relief. They are funny. They are funny-looking. No story can be a hundred percent evil, or a hundred percent good. All stories need moments that relieve the tension.

When Oink appears on the page, the reader knows he is against Harry. But the reader also knows Harry will get the better of him. Oink is not the main villain. He is there to get to Harry and remind him that Harry is fighting forces unseen, forces of evil.

Harry never really has a run-in with Ug. It's not his role to confront Harry. Ug stays on the fringes of the story, looking out for his master and reporting back. And yes, he can speak. This is the result of Kligore's dark magic—imbuing the gift of speech on a sewer rat. What rat would not be eternally grateful?

Oink is direct from Hell. He is a product of B. L. Zebub's grotto—the place where these denizens of all that is wicked plan their deeds. He is the lead Hound, the shop supervisor who delights in ordering the other hounds around—even Ug. It seems these two toadies are out to impress Kligore and so there is a bit of a rivalry between them. Oink with his physical threats. Rat is more verbal. But against Harry Moon they don't stand a chance.

Of course, Ug and Oink do not act without express orders from their boss, the mayor of Sleepy Hollow.

# **Maximus Kligore**

Every good story needs its villains, its bad guys, the one character we like to despise. In the Harry Moon books that character is Mayor Maximus Kligore. Like most villains Mayor Kligore is mean and nasty, out for self. He's greedy and power hungry.

> "He who is not contented with what he has, would not be contented with what he would like to have."

> > — Socrates

Kligore has or at least he thinks he has total control over Sleepy Hollow. But how did he get that way? His story is not unusual or even surprising as villain back-story goes. His parents were killed in a fiery car crash, leaving him orphaned and alone. He was sent to live at an orphanage where he became the victim of bullies and the object of ridicule. Between the loss of his parents, and his lack of friends and social interactions, young Maximus was ripe for the picking—evil forces were able to extend their gnarly, wicked fingers and get a hold of him. These forces, known in Sleepy Hollow as The Quiet Ones (more on them later), were the only beings who seemed to care about poor Max. And he believed them. He let them enter his world and sway him to do their evil bidding. Oh, it started innocently enough—petty theft, lying, cheating but soon Kligore developed into a full-blown sociopath willing to give The Quiet Ones his life and his soul in exchange for supposed control over Sleepy Hollow. It was they who allowed and even encouraged Kligore to cast his evil spell and trap this quiet, innocent town in Halloween.

As part of the ruse, the powers of darkness created the We Drive By Night Company, a front for their evil doings, a mask that enables them to control all of the enterprises in Sleepy Hollow. They of course, put Kligore in an executive position within the company even providing a fancy car, plenty of boot lickers and of course an administrative assistant who thinks he's a dreamboat. But no matter how flashy the trappings, Kligore's role is to follow the leaders.

No villain can be all-bad. Even the scariest monsters have their moments of tenderness—Frankenstein's monster presented the little girl with a daisy. Kligore's tender moments come when he is alone considering his empire, his world, his family. He can be vulnerable but he never, ever lets anyone see.





As mayor, Maximus Kligore cuts his fair share of ribbons, is present at town meetings, makes mayoral decisions all in the best interest of the town. He looks and acts the part in his three-piece suits and hard shoes. He carries a leather briefcase and even helps little old ladies to cross the street. But underneath he wears a cloak of darkness and carries a dark-magic staff.

Although unable to act entirely on his own, Mayor Kligore is the arch-villain throughout the Harry Moon series. He stands for all that is negative and vile. And now, after so many years of bowing down to The Quiet Ones, Mayor Maximus Kligore is irredeemable. All humans have been given the gift of free-will. Kligore squandered his gift and joined the dark side in their evil quest to rule the hearts and minds of Sleepy Hollow. The only question that remains is, how long can Kligore ward off the light?

"So comes snow after fire, and even dragons have their endings."

— J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit* 

# Sleepy Hollow — A Town Trapped In Halloween

Sleepy Hollow, Massachusetts was the perfect place for the forces of evil to work their designs. For years tourists had been arriving in this small New England town expecting to learn more about Ichabod Crane and the Headless Horseman of Washington Irving's tale - *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. Of course, the Sleepy Hollow of literary fame is located in New York. The story goes that a schoolteacher and choirmaster, Ichabod Crane was in love with the daughter of the richest man in Sleepy Hollow. She unfortunately did not share his affections. But Ichabod was determined and much to his surprise, was invited to a party where she would be attending. The thing is, the man Brom—a dashing young fellow also wanted Katherine's love. That evening, at the party, Katherine dumps Ichabod and he gallops away on his horse. On the way home he meets the Headless Horseman who chases Ichabod and tosses his severed head at him and he is thrown from his horse. The next day all that is found is Ichabod's hat, his horse and a pumpkin. Ichabod was never heard from again nor his body never found. But, suspicious eyes do look to Brom as the guilty one.

For years, this short story is associated with Halloween as the pumpkin kind of morphed into being a Jack O'lantern and the party a Halloween fest.

So, with tourists already visiting the wrong Sleepy Hollow it was not difficult to take advantage—especially with the help of a little dark magic. Kligore, after he became mayor, had a statue of the Headless Horseman on his dark horse erected in the town

square. The statue was cast from the bronze of the North Church bells that Kligore had ordered removed and smelted.

In his quest to please the We Drive by Night Company, Kligore cast a spell which trapped the town and the residents in Halloween. FOREVER. Unless, of course a hero comes along to release them from this curse—and that hero is Harry Moon.

It is perpetually autumn in Sleepy Hollow. The trees are mostly bare. Fallen leaves crunch underfoot and there is a constant chill in the air. Businesses took on names and appearances that reflected the darker side of Halloween. People's homes are always decked out in Halloween décor. In Sleepy Hollow, the view never changes. Even holidays—especially Christmas are tinged with evil trappings—Santas with vampire fangs and rabid reindeer decorate the lawns. Spiders creep down the street and the pumpkin patches around town seem to come alive at night. The Sleepy Hollow cemetery is a place of dares and tricks and frightened children rush home for comfort only to be met with more Halloween scares on their front porches.

The Quiet Ones have been lurking around Sleepy Hollow this the beginning using fear as their main tool to weaken the people and make way for Maximus Kligore and the We Drive By Night Company. Fear is a powerful force. It is an unpleasant belief that someone or something is about to cause you harm—physical or emotional.

We learn as children to whistle in the dark. To not give into fear. But in Sleepy Hollow, the fear is all too real and all too constant. The thing is, the townsfolk don't even know they are chumps, pawns in Kligore's fatal game—they've come to accept fear and all things dark and grizzly as normal. What better way to control an entire town than through fear?

Some people like to say, "Happy Halloween." Well, there is really nothing happy about Halloween, especially in Sleepy Hollow— where kids, mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, grandparents and even the family pet are trapped in an inescapable place of fear and darkness.

Thank goodness for Harry Moon.





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