



THE HUNGER GAMES: DISCUSSION GUIDE #4



CHAPTERS 14–16

Comprehension:

- What is Katniss's first sponsor gift? Why is Katniss so impressed by it?
- How does Katniss escape from the tributes camping out under her tree?
- Why does Katniss want Rue as an ally? What skills does Rue have, and how have they helped her so far?
- What surprising facts about District Eleven does Katniss learn from Rue? Why does this surprise her?
- Explain Katniss's plan to eliminate the Careers' supplies. How is this different from her previous plans in the Games?
- How do mockingjays play into Rue and Katniss's alliance and plan?
- How are the Careers' supplies protected? How does Katniss destroy them?

Analysis:

- How do tracker jackers and other *muttations* fit into the theme of dystopia? Cite evidence from the novel to support your answer.
- How does getting the bow and arrows affect Katniss's outlook on the Games?
- Why does Katniss think her conversation with Rue is likely being censored? How does this fit into the theme of dystopia?
- What is one surprising advantage that Katniss and Rue have over the Career Tributes? How does this fit into the theme of survival?

Personal:

- Even though Rue has a hard life in District Eleven, she tells Katniss that the thing she loves most in the world is music. What is the thing you love most? Why?



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CHAPTERS 17-18

Comprehension:

- How does the explosion affect Katniss, both physically and mentally?
- What is a “hollow day,” and why is it called that?
- Aside from the other tributes, what other possible dangers does Katniss face in the arena?
- What does Katniss do to honor Rue? What is the deeper purpose?
- What is the second sponsor gift that Katniss receives, and who is it from? Why did she receive this gift?
- Explain the rule change announced at the end of Chapter 18. What does this mean for the characters? Why do you think the Gamemakers announced this rule change?

Analysis:

- In Chapter 16, Rue tells Katniss that she loves music. Katniss admits to herself that she ranks music “somewhere between hair ribbons and rainbows in terms of usefulness.” But then, when Rue asks Katniss to sing to her as she’s dying, Katniss admits, “There was once music in my house, too. Music that I helped make.” What do these two scenes reveal about Katniss?
- In what ways is Rue’s death a turning point for Katniss? Why do you think this event sparked this change for her? Cite evidence from the story to support your answer.
- How does Suzanne Collins “show not tell” the reader about Katniss’s grief after Rue’s death? Cite specific parts of the story and explain how they show Katniss’s grief.
- What other plot events are put in motion as a result of Katniss destroying the Careers’ supplies?

Personal:

- How does one stay true to oneself in an oppressive society? Give some examples of people, either real or fictional, who have remained true to themselves despite the darkness around them.