

What the World Doesn't See

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Page 28

- Why has the author chosen to write the book in dual narrative? What does each perspective add to the story?
- Jake describes having bees inside his head. Can you relate to how this might feel? What might make you feel this way?

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- Maudie and her family are grieving, but her friends don't seem to understand. Why can grief be a lonely experience?
- Maudie says she feels like a *'shaded-in pencil drawing of myself that's been rubbed out, so that all that's left is my outline.'* What does she mean by this?

Page 59

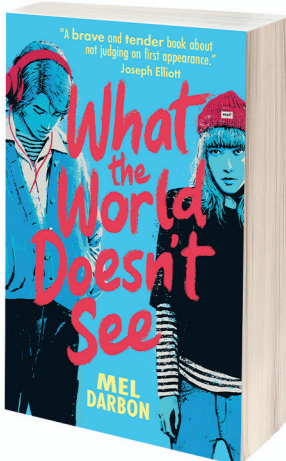
- Why do you think Eve makes the decision to put Jake into foster care?
- Maudie says that the world doesn't see what Jake is really like. Why does the world not see Jake the way Maudie does?
- Jake and Maudie have a strong bond. What do they mean to each other?

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- What do you think about Maudie's plan to get their mum back? Do you think this could work?
- Maudie recalls when people are insensitive towards Jake. How does this make the whole family feel? And how does it make you feel?

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- What do you think Maudie's dad meant when he said: *'Pride comes before a fall'*?
- Why do you think Maudie's mum hid how she was truly feeling? Why does Maudie blame herself for her Mum leaving?



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I don't ever remember seeing someone like Jake in a book or on TV – it's as though people with learning disabilities don't exist in public. The sadness of that overwhelms me. Jake's been blanked out of life.

- Can you think of books and TV shows that include characters like yourself? What difference does this make to your life?
- What do you think could be done to help people better understand those with disabilities?
- How does what we read in books and see on TV shape our views of the world?

Page 230

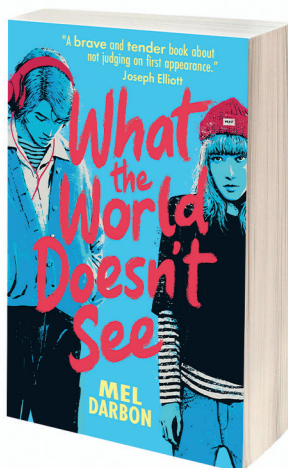
- Maudie feels a lot of responsibility and is lonely in Cornwall. How do Liv and Gerren help her?
- How is Jake coping with the challenge of being away from his home and routine?

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- Why do you think Maudie and Jake's mum doesn't want to be found? Can you try and imagine how she might be feeling?
- Do you think Maudie needs to worry about Jake as much as she does? Or could giving him some space help them both?
- Jiera says that 'disability isn't a bad thing – it's what makes us, us.' How does this make you look at disability differently?

Page 338

- Jake and Maudie find their mum and rescue her. How do you think they both feel in this moment? How do their actions help their mum both physically and emotionally?
- How has this trip helped Maudie to realise that Jake needs more independence?
- What does Maudie mean when she realises 'it's more than enough being me'?



Page 365

- How have the people Jake and Maudie met at the campsite helped them?
- Why do you think Maudie and Gerren get along so well?
- Maudie realises she is going home with more than she arrived with. How do you think her life will change once she's back home? What has this journey taught her about herself and her family?

