

# BOOK DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## QUESTION 1

In what ways is S.T. caught between the MoFo world and the world of nature? How does this affect his sense of self? How does it both benefit and impair him at various points in the novel?

## QUESTION 2

S.T.'s relationship with Dennis evolves from S.T.'s deprecation and occasional hostility to a pure and loving friendship. In what ways do the unlikely duo complement each other? What do you think their bond stems from?

## QUESTION 3

What other unlikely symbiotic relationships exist in the novel? What about in the real world?

## QUESTION 4

Kraai initially claims that S.T. is "caged and clipped," an idea that S.T. angrily rejects. However, S.T. later loses his ability to fly due to a wing injury. How is this significant to S.T.'s character and place in the world?

## QUESTION 5

Consider the way the natural world communicates and how rumors spread in this novel. How are Aura, Echo, and Web similar and different to methods of human communication?

## QUESTION 6

Although he is absent for most of the story, Big Jim is periodically portrayed through flashbacks. How does his character develop and evolve through S.T.'s memories? How does your perception of Big Jim change throughout the novel?

## QUESTION 7

S.T. often wonders at the ingenuity of humans, from inventions like Cheetos® and hot dog-eating competitions to "how even though MoFos weren't born with wings, they made their own and put them on airplanes and maxi pads, and [...] how they flushed all their poops out to Echo" (chapter 37). How does this reverence compare to his feelings for the natural world? Can you think of moments where S.T. displays the same awe for nature?

## QUESTION 8

Besides Cheetos®, what do you think are the best inventions and characteristics of humanity? Of nature?

## QUESTION 9

Why do you think the book is titled Hollow Kingdom?

## QUESTION 10

Who is your favorite character? Why?

