

***Society of the Sentinelia* by Micki Bare**

Discussion Questions



Let's get the conversation started! Here are 20 questions for parents, teachers, librarians, book club leaders, and others to use to get tweens talking about *Society of the Sentinelia*. Choose from these or come up with your own!

1. The story is told from Zahra's point of view. How might the story be different if it was told from Danni's point of view?
2. Zahra and her family lost their home—a tree. What other animals or creatures may have also lost their home that day?
3. In chapter 7, Zahra wonders why Danni's classmates make fun of her for being different and for being a good student. Why do you think the classmates make fun of Danni? Does this happen in your school? How does it make you feel?
4. In chapter 14, page 50, Zahra describes how she thinks humans make cookies. How well did she describe the process? How would you describe how to make cookies?
5. The Society is a group of people who keep watch over scraebins. Can you think of other groups that keep watch over people, animals, or things? How are they alike or different from the Society of the Sentinelia group?
6. In chapter 17, Mrs. Mildred Erdos talks about when, many years ago, scraebins were taken by humans and used to help with chores. Can you think of examples of humans using animals for chores?
7. In chapter 18, page 71, Danni talks about living with foster families until she was adopted by her parents. How did her story make you feel? How did it make Zahra feel?
8. In chapter 21, page 83, Danni and Zahra have trouble communicating about dates and time. How could Danni have asked the question in a way Zahra could understand? How could Zahra have communicated that she didn't understand?
9. At the end of chapter 22, page 91, Zahra says nothing and abruptly goes home. How do you think she was feeling at that moment? Why?

10. In chapter 24, page 98, when Danni tells her mother she's talking to, "no one," it makes the tiny hairs on the back of Zahra's neck stand up. Why do you think Zahra reacted that way? How would you feel in the same situation?
11. In chapter 25, page 102, the deputies mention the "buddy system." Do you think Danni used the buddy system or not? What else did they do to stay safe? What did they do that put them in danger?
12. In chapter 27, page 110, Miss Jellisia Levion says, "all fairies are scraebins, but not all scraebins are fairies." What did she mean and why is it important?
13. In chapter 29, page 120, Mr. Robin blocks Zahra from going into the birdhouse. Why would he protect the eggs from Zahra, who he was also protecting?
14. In chapter 30, page 127, Zahra doubts herself because she didn't fly out of Mrs. Mildred Erdos' pocket when she had the chance. Do you think she was brave or irresponsible? Can you think of a time you wish you'd have reacted differently?
15. In chapter 37, Danni helps reveal that Zahra was telling the truth and Mrs. Mildred Erdos really did kidnap Zahra. Have you ever told the truth, but weren't believed? What did you do?
16. In chapter 40, page 170, Zahra tries to explain "consequences" to Danni. Can you describe an action that caused a consequence that only affected you? Can you describe an action that had consequences that affected others?
17. What would you have done if you were stuck in Mrs. Mildred Erdos' house?
18. Which setting in *Society of the Sentinelia* was your favorite? Name three things about that setting that you liked.
19. What other books have you read that are similar in at least one way to *Society of the Sentinelia*? How are they similar?
20. Which character in the book do you think is a hero? What did they do that was heroic?

