

***“Freak the Mighty”* by Rodman Philbrick**

Chapters 1-4: Questions

1. Who is telling the story? How do you know?
2. Who are Gram and Grim?
3. Max sees Freak for the first time in day care. What does Max think of Freak?
4. What didn't Max have until Freak moved down the street?
5. Describe and draw the down under. Why does Max like the down under?
6. What does Max retrieve from the tree for Freak?
7. What observation does Max make about how Freak talks?
8. What does Freak do and say when Max asks him why he calls his mother Fair Gwen of Air?
9. What does Freak tell Max about robots?

Quotes

- a) "My brain is **vacant**, okay?"
- b) "We'll schedule installation of a new **propulsion** unit..."
- c) "Grim would be, I suppose, a **sobriquet** for your grandfather, based on his **demeanor**."

Activity One

Create a 12 word wordsearch (using words from Freak's Dictionary). You can use the template or completely create your own. Challenge a friend to find your words.

Chapters 5-7: Questions

1. What was Gwen's relationship with Max's mother?
2. People say that Max is the spitting image of his father. Why is it bad for Max to look like his father?
3. Why does Max cry like a baby when he goes to bed after having dinner with Freak and Gwen?
4. What happens to Max and Freak when they are walking to the millpond to see the fireworks?
5. Identify and describe Blade.
6. Why does Max put Freak on his shoulders at the fireworks display?
7. Describe what happens to Freak and Max after the fireworks.

Quotes

- a) "Expel the object."
- b) "CRETIN. Defined as one who suffers from mental **deficiency**."
- c) "They've locked on to us. Their **trajectory** is **converging**."

Activity Two

Pretend you are a Talk Show host and Max & Freak will be your guests. Prepare a list of questions to ask them (relating to Max "rescuing" Freak) & present it to the class.

Chapters 8-10: Questions

1. How do Grim and Gram react to Max being a hero?
2. Why do you think they change how they treat him because of this incident?
3. What does Max think about rescuing Freak?
4. What does the coffee Grim offers Max symbolize?
5. What has become a habit for Max and Freak when they go out together?
6. What secret does Max promise to keep about the Medical Research building?
7. What is the quest Freak and Max have to wait until exactly three in the morning to do?
8. Why do you think Max does everything Freak tells him to?
9. What is the treasure in the storm drain?

Quotes

- a) He's not running away.' Grim says, real impatient. 'He's taking **evasive** action.'"
- b) "Now swear on your heart that the data you are about to receive will be **divulged** to no one."

Activity Three

What are the 3 most important qualities of friendship? Explain/support each of your choices (use the book, your own experiences, and other sources as reference).

Chapters 11-13: Questions

1. Identify and describe Loretta Lee.
2. Why does Max like Freak riding on his shoulders?
3. Why does Iggy let Max and Freak leave without messing with them?
4. What does Freak tell Max about his father's leaving after he was born?
5. Why does Gram agree to sign the papers allowing Max to be in the smart classes?
6. What happens in Mrs. Donelli's class that gets Max and Freak sent to the principal's office?
7. What does Freak teach Max that no one else has been able to do?
8. How is reading different from writing for Max?
9. What happens to Freak while Max is getting him more chop suey?

Activity Four

With a partner or a small group, create a tableau scene demonstrating what you think is the most important event of the story so far. Be prepared to defend your selection!

Chapters 14-16: Questions

1. Why does Freak not want Gwen to hear Max talking about the robot stuff?
2. Does Freak really believe that he will be "the first bionically improved human" by having a body transplant?
3. Why does Freak need a new body?
4. Why are Gram and Grim shouting?
5. What does Grim tell Max about his father?
6. On Christmas Eve what do Freak, Max, Grim, Gram, and Gwen do?
7. Describe the box and gift Freak gives to Max Christmas Eve. Why is Freak's Christmas so

important to Max?

8. What happens to Max in the night on Christmas Eve?

9. Do you really think Killer Kane wants to get to know his son better? Why or why not?

Quotes

a) "Easily corrected by biogenic **intervention**."

b) "You know how many Christmas Eves I've been **deprived** of my own blood kin?"

Activity Five

Research Freak's disease (**Morquio Syndrome**). How would your life be different if you had Freak's disease. Explain using feelings and opinions.

Chapters 17-19: Questions

1. Where does Iggy take Max and Killer Kane on Christmas Eve?

2. What does Killer Kane want Max to know?

3. What does Killer Kane swear on the Bible?

4. What is Killer Kane's plan for the future?

5. Describe where Killer Kane takes Max to hide from the cops.

6. Who first comes to help Max escape from his father?

7. What happens while Loretta is untying Max?

8. What happened that helps Max begin to realize his father may not be as good as he says he is?

Quotes

a) "...except they're so **ignorant** and hateful they believe that worst."

b) "He reaches out and **tussles** at my hair."

c) "...they're **numb** and **bloated** from the rope cutting into my wrists..."

Activity Six

The lyrics in the song *The Mighty* by Sting talk about a world of seeming impossibilities. With reference to lines from the song, explain some of the triumphs achieved by Max and/or Freak. What would you consider to be your greatest triumph?

Chapters 20-22: Questions

1. What does Max do to help Loretta?

2. What does Max remember as he sees his father strangling Loretta? How does Killer Kane react?

3. Why does Max's father try to strangle him?

4. How do Freak and Max get away from Killer Kane?

5. What does Freak tell Max Dr. Spivak says about his unique medical status?

6. What is different about school after Christmas vacation?

7. What happens to Killer Kane?

13. Max is still upset about being like his father. What does Grim say to Max?

14. While walking home on the last day of school what does Freak tell Max about remembering?

15. Why is Freak's birthday like two birthdays?

16. What happens to Freak on his birthday?

Quotes

- a) "Dr. Spivak says my **unique** status as a marvel of **genetic aberration** makes me an object of intense curiosity."
b) "Talk about a **prodigy**."

After You're Done Reading The Book

Do **3 READING RESPONSES** to the novel. Use your notes and drawings to help.

- One response for the "Big Idea,"
- One for "Opinions/Feelings" and
- One for "Connections."

Lyrics to The Mighty

Walking this high road are warriors from an olden time
Curse on this land and the days far behind us
Dragons we've slain, rescued many maiden's fair
And no man ever dared break our stride
Or the brotherhood that binds us.

Brothers are we, marching on the roads of time
From this broken land and the days that defined us
All men are free, justice is a sword we hold
Trusting in the knights noble vow
In the brotherhood that binds us.

When the broken are strong (Freak the mighty)
When the beaten are proud (Freak the mighty)
When the twisted can stand (Freak the mighty)
When the silenced can laugh (Freak the mighty)
When the hunted have turned (Freak the mighty)
When the tortured are sane (Freak the mighty)
When the blinded still stare (Freak the mighty)
When the poisoned remain (Freak the mighty)
When the voiceless can sing (Freak the mighty)
And the shackled can run (Freak the mighty)
And this downtrodden man holds his face to the sun
(Freak the mighty)
We'll be walking high above the world. (Freak the mighty)

Our legend will say
Freak the mighty..

BIG IDEAS!

Max

<p>Drawing:</p>	<p>Appearance Descriptions:</p>
<p>Actions:</p>	<p>Think/Say:</p>
<p>Others Say:</p>	<p>Relationships:</p>

FREAK

<p>Drawing:</p>	<p>Appearance Descriptions:</p>
<p>Actions:</p>	<p>Think/Say:</p>
<p>Others Say:</p>	<p>Relationships:</p>

Other Characters

Drawing:	Characteristics:

Pilot

	<p>Chapter Title: _____</p> <p>Page Number: _____</p> <p>Description: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
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