## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## Lilliput

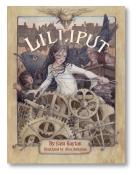
## by Sam Gayton | illustrated by Alice Ratterree

For half her life, Lily—a girl three inches tall with eyes like drops of dew and clothes cut from handkerchiefs and stitched with spider silk—has been trapped in a birdcage while her giant kidnapper sits beside her, writing in a leather-bound book the size of a house. But tonight she is escaping. She is going home. To Lilliput.

Inspired by *Gulliver's Travels*, *Lilliput* is an exhilarating and imaginative adventure filled with cunning escape plans, evil clock makers, and talkative parrots as Lily travels through eighteenth-century London on a journey to find the one place in the world where she belongs...home.

- 1. If you were as tiny as Lily, what do you think your biggest obstacles would be?
- 2. Would you approach escaping from Gulliver differently than Lily? How so?
- 3. Lily persists in her attempts to escape from Gulliver until she finally succeeds. Can you think of characters in other books that persevere through challenges in their lives?
- 4. In chapter 6, Gulliver says to Lily, "I am not a kidnapper; I am a man of science and reason. And you are not my prisoner, as you just said yourself." (37–38). What does Gulliver think of himself? How is that different from what Lily thinks about Gulliver?
- 5. Why does Gulliver need Lily? Why does Mr. Plinker need Finn?
- 6. What are some of the things that are important to Lily? Compare and contrast the things important to Lily versus the things that are important to Mr. Plinker.
- 7. Both Lily and Finn are trapped in different ways. Compare and contrast how Lily and Finn are trapped. How is this different than from how Swift the bird is trapped?

- 8. Mr. Plinker uses time as a weapon against Finn with the Waste-Not Watch. How is time a challenge for the characters in the book?
- 9. In chapter 25, Lily thinks, "The world is full of cages, and not all of them are built with iron bars." (154). What do you think this means? What are some examples of "cages" in the world?
- 10. In chapter 25, Mr. Ozinda says that time is Lily's most dangerous enemy. What does that mean?
- 11. Why do you think Gulliver changes his mind about Lily going back to Liliput?
- 12. How would you describe Lily at the beginning of the story? Do your adjectives to describe Lily change by the end of the book?



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