

Skokie Public Library's Book Discussion Guide

METAMORPHOSIS by Franz Kafka

Part I

How does Gregor Samsa react to having been turned into a bug? How would you react, if this happened to you?

What, as a bug, are his new limitations? How do these compare to the life he led before the metamorphosis?

Before the metamorphosis, what was the family arrangement? What is it now?

Grete and Gregor are the only two characters referred to by their first name. What is the significance of this?

Part II

Gregor's family begins a metamorphosis of sorts. What does this mean for the father? Mother? Grete?

As Gregor better adapts to life as a bug, he is getting further from what? And how so?

Describe the events, misunderstandings and conflict that lead to Gregor having an apple thrown into his back.

Part III

At this point in the story, the family hits bottom. How and why? What are the results of their financial problems?

Grete plays the violin for the first time in the story. Describe each and everyone's reaction. What is the significance of Gregor's reaction?

Why does Gregor die? How does his family react?

What is the conclusion of the story? Is it a happy ending?

And last...What on earth does it all mean?!



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