

Skokie Public Library's Book Discussion Guide

Room by Emma Donoghue

- Did you agree with the choices that Ma made? Were her choices believable?
- Did you find Jack's escape believable?
- Why do you think the entire book is told in Jack's voice? Do you think it is effective?
- What are some of the ways in which Jack's development has been stunted by growing up in Room? How has he benefited?
- If you were Ma, what would you miss most about the outside world? How would you pass the time? Entertain a child? If Ma had never given birth to Jack, what would her situation in Room be like?
- What would you do differently if you were Jack's parent? Would you tell Jack about the outside world from the start?
- In what ways did Ma's kidnapping affect her family? How did her family members cope with her kidnapping and her miraculous return to them?
- What does the future hold for Ma and Jack? Do you think Ma will be able to resume some sort of normal life?
- Describe the dynamic between Old Nick and Ma. Why does the author choose not to tell us Old Nick's story?
- What does joining the outside world do to Jack? To Ma?
- What role do you think the media play in the novel? How does the outside world react to them?
- What does the novel say about freedom? Our choices?



Skokie Public Library

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