

Haroun and the Sea of Stories
by Salman Rushdie

Reading Guide:
Chapters 9-12

Haroun #3 - Chs. 9-12

Reading Questions

The following reading questions will help you notice important aspects of your reading. The application questions will help you connect your reading to your own life. But don't let them get in the way of actually reading! If you don't have time to write out your answers, just answer them in your head and let them guide your reading.

Remember: the more you put into this, the more you'll get out of it!

Ch. 9 - The Dark Ship

1. What strikes Haroun about the appearance of the ship?

2. What does Haroun find familiar about Khattam-Shud?

3. What does Khattam-Shud condemn in Haroun's character?

Application Questions: On page 152 Haroun wonders how "the worst things of all can look so *normal* and, well, *dull*." How is this true of Khattam-Shud? Where else in your life have Haroun's words proven to be true?

Ch. 10 - Haroun's Wish

1. What is an anti-story? How does an anti-story destroy a story?
2. Why does Khattam-Shud hate stories so much?
3. What does Haroun wish? Why is he able to concentrate for more than eleven minutes?

Application Questions: Bad things happen when people try to control the stories of other people. How has your story been controlled by others? How have you tried to control the stories of your family, friends, and coworkers? What can you do to avoid this in the future?

Ch. 11 - Princess Batcheat

1. Why are the Chupwalas beaten so easily?
2. Why does Rashid recognize the song Princess Batcheat sings?
3. How does the real Khattam-Shud die? Why is this death fitting for him?

Application Questions: The Guppees debate everything. How does this custom help them when they finally fight their enemies? Where else have you seen this principle at work? Where do you need to apply this principle to your life now?

Ch. 12 - Was It the Walrus?

1. What does the Walrus offer Haroun as a reward? What does Haroun want?

2. Why does Snotty Buttoo leave the Valley of K forever?

3. Why is Haroun disappointed with the happiness the rain brings his city? What is the name of the city and why is this important?

Application Questions: Rashid tells the story *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* and sends the ambitious Snotty Buttoo packing. What do Haroun and Snotty Buttoo learn about the use of stories that aren't even true? What have you learned about them?