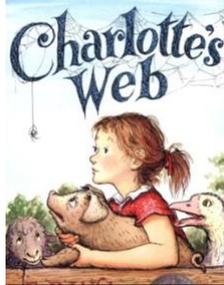


Curative Reading
Charlotte's Web, By E. B. White
Week One Questions
(Forward By Kate DiCamillo &
Chapters 1-5, Before Breakfast – Charlotte)



Special Note For Beginning the Series and Answering Week One Questions:

The next 4-weeks are meant to spark your imagination to enable you to begin to see life through a new lens, the lens of story where endless new possibilities exist to change and grow for the better. You will also learn just how connected your own personal health and wellbeing is to your ability to make positive connections with others and the natural world both inside and outside of the pages of a story.

The following questions are meant to sharpen your recall and bring you into a curative relationship with the story to enhance your health and wellbeing. Your answers do not have to be shared with the group and can remain just for you.

A Personal Curative Vision

Do you have a vision for your health and wellbeing over the next four weeks? If so, write a line or two about what that is.

Forward

At the end of the foreword, Kate DiCamillo, compares Charlotte's promise to Wilbur with E. B. White's promise to his readers. What do these two promises mean to you in today's world?

Chapter 1, Before Breakfast

Pg. 1 "The grass was wet and the earth smelled of springtime. Fern's sneakers were sopping by the time she caught up with her father." Can you recall a time when this

happened to your sneakers or shoes when you were out in nature in the early morning? Write a line or two about that memory.

Pg. 3. “A queer look came over John Arable’s face. He seemed almost ready to cry himself.” Why do you think this look crossed his face and what made him change his mind about not killing the pig?

Chapter Two – Wilbur

Who feeds Wilbur when Fern is at school? At what times of the day does Wilbur get nourished and how many meals does he have a day?

Every day was a happy one and every night was peaceful. Can you think of a time in your life when you felt this way? If so, write a line or two about that time.

Chapter Three – Escape

Why do you think all the animals in the barn trusted Fern?

Wilbur wants to break out of his pen because he feels bored and penned up. Can you recall wanted to break out of place or situation? If so, write a line or two about this. Did you break out like Wilbur, or did you stay in? What did it feel like?

Chapter Four – Loneliness

Wilbur had many big plans for his day and then they were all rained out. Write down one of Wilbur’s plans that you might like to do yourself and then write a line about why you might like to do that one thing.

Wilbur cries again for the second time in two days. Why is he crying now?

How have Wilbur's feelings effected his appetite? How do your feelings effect your appetite?

Chapter Five – Charlotte

Wilbur learns how Charlotte makes her living and is put off by it at first. He says it is a “miserable inheritance.” But Charlotte explains some of the benefits of how she survives in the world. Name one or two of them.

Pg. 41 “I’ve got a new friend, all right. But what a gamble friendship is. Charlotte is fierce, brutal, scheming, bloodthirsty—everything I don’t like. How can I learn to like her, even though she is pretty and of course, clever?” Can you recall meeting someone who had qualities you did not like who became a good friend? If so, write a line or two about that.

Find a line or phrase from the reading that you made you smile, or feel a strong sentiment of any kind. Write it down or underline it and then write a line or two about why it is meaningful to you.

Write down a question you might like to ask someone else about this week’s reading to prompt a curative discussion about the story.