OGRE ENCHANTED

BY NEWBERY HONOR AUTHOR

GAIL CARSON LEVINE

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Set in the same world a generation before the Newbery Honor-winning *Ella Enchanted*, this humorous and affecting story features another clever heroine determined to defy expectations and outwit a fairy's curse.

Grades 3–7

BOOKTALK

Would you like to marry an ogre? No? I didn't think so. That's what worries Evie, a girl turned into an ogre by the reckless fairy Lucinda. Ever romantic, Lucinda was furious when Evie turned down a marriage proposal. Now Evie has 62 days to find someone who will marry her, or she'll be an ogre forever. And pretty much everyone loathes ogres, who love to fight and eat humans. On her quest to find a suitor, Evie lives with ogres, visits giants and dragons, and even serves as a healer at the king's court. She comes to understand what truly matters to her, but time's ticking away. Will anyone see past Evie's hideous appearance and come to love her? Or will she be an ogre forever?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The author conveys a lot of information in the first page of the book. What facts do you learn? What do you find out about Evie's personality and interests? What do you learn about Wormy?

2. On the second page, Evie proclaims, "Healing was my calling and my joy" (p. 2). Discuss the meaning of the word *calling* and why she uses it. Give examples from the rest of the story that prove her statement to be true.

3. Discuss some of the ways that Evie changes throughout the novel, including the nature of her relationship with Wormy. What useful lessons does her time as an ogre teach her? What role does Lady Eleanor play in changing Evie's view of herself?

4. Describe how Evie sees Wormy when the book opens. How does he seem different to her when she sees him at the master's farm? What are some adjectives that convey his personality? Discuss Wormy and Lady Chloris, and why he wants her to propose to him. What does that incident show about him?

5. What are some characteristics of ogres, physical and otherwise? Which of those characteristics does Evie share when she's transformed? How is she different from the other ogres? Describe what it means to zEEn and how the ogres use that ability. Why does Evie want to learn to zEEn?

6. Sir Peter expresses the belief that Evie won't eat him, saying, "You're too virtuous" (p. 212). What is her answer? Explain why you think she is or isn't virtuous. Who else in the story is virtuous, and what makes you think that?

7. Why is Evie attracted to Sir Peter? Why is Lady Eleanor? How does he fool people, including the king, into thinking highly of him? What is Sir Peter really like and what does he value?

8. Evie has some hope that Squire Jerrold will propose to her. What is he like? What are his best qualities? Why does Evie describe him as "honorable, yes, intelligent, yes, but uninteresting" (p. 176)?

HARPER
An Imprint of HarperCollins*Publishers*

www.harperstacks.com

Teaching guide created by Kathleen Odean, librarian, author, and Common Core workshop presenter.

OGRE ENCHANTED

BY NEWBERY HONOR AUTHOR

GAIL CARSON LEVINE

DISCUSSION GUIDE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

9. While at the castle, Evie says about her situation, "Horrible to be unique and alone" (p. 214). What makes her unique? What are some of the reasons she feels alone? How does she deal with her pain and loneliness?

10. Explain why Wormy says in his wedding vows, "I promise never to be entirely well and to try not to get entirely sick" (p. 337). Why does Evie answer that he's her "most perfect patient" (p. 337)? What does Lady Eleanor realize about Wormy and his medical problems before Evie understands it?

11. Describe Lucinda's appearance and personality. What are some of her beliefs about love? How do her actions affect the plot? Why does she take those actions? How do those around Lucinda react to her, and why?

12. Evie observes that, "As an ogre forever, I might save more creatures" (p. 246). What makes her think that? Do you think she should choose to stay an ogre for that reason? Why or why not?

13. Evie travels around Kyrria once she's an ogre. Describe the places she goes. What motivates her travels? Recount some of her adventures and explain how the author made them exciting.

14. Lucinda gives Evie only 62 days to find someone who will propose marriage to her. What is the effect of the deadline on the story? How does it change Evie's actions and how does it make her feel?

15. What makes Evie's narrative voice distinct? Find examples of when she uses lists. Explain why she uses them and how they reflect her personality. Find examples of when her narrative is funny and analyze the humor.

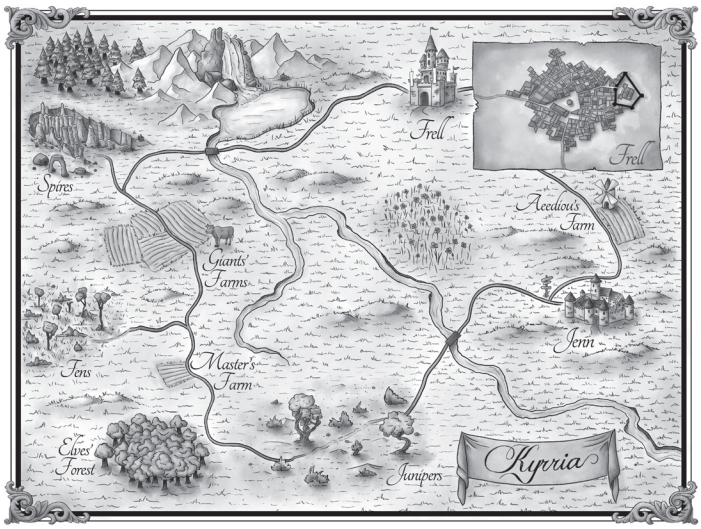

Photo by David Levine

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

GAIL CARSON LEVINE is the author of the Newbery Honor Book *Ella Enchanted* and the *New York Times* bestsellers *Ever* and *Fairest*, among other bestselling and beloved titles. She lives in the Hudson Valley of New York State. You can visit her online at www.gailcarsonlevine.com.

HARPER
An Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers

www.harperstacks.com

Teaching guide created by Kathleen Odean, librarian, author, and Common Core workshop presenter.