

How to print this booklet

Open the PDF, choose Print, and set these:

Paper size	US Letter (8.5 × 11 in)
Orientation	Landscape
Print on both sides	On (two-sided / duplex)
Flip on	Short edge
Scale	100% / Actual size — not “Fit to page”
Pages	All

THEN

1. Take the whole stack out of the printer. Keep the sheets in order.
2. Fold the stack in half, so this page is on the outside.
3. Staple twice along the fold.



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Reading Journal

My thoughts, chapter by chapter

Reader:

Book Title:

Freak the Mighty

Author:

W. R. Philbrick

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
Created by didtheyreallyread.com

How to Answer

Your answer does not have to be perfect. Just answer in complete thoughts and use details from the chapter.

How to structure your answer

A strong answer usually has a few parts. Try these steps:

1. **Answer the question.** Start with one sentence that answers the question directly.
2. **Give an example.** Add a detail or moment from the chapter that shows what you mean.
3. **Explain why.** Tell why it mattered, or how it made you think or feel.
4. **Wrap it up.** Finish with a closing thought, a question, or a prediction.

When Max visits Kevin's house, how do Max and Kevin begin to see each other in a new way?

Example answer: I think Max and Kevin start to notice that they can help each other. Max sees that Kevin is very smart and brave, even though his body is small. Kevin sees that Max is not just a big scary kid like some people think. They both begin to understand that they could become friends.

How to Answer (continued)

Max and Kevin go to Iggy and Loretta's apartment. Why might this place make Max nervous, and what do you learn about the adults there?

Example answer: I think Max feels nervous because Iggy and Loretta's apartment seems rough and not very safe. The adults there act strange, and Max does not know if he can trust them. I learned that Iggy and Loretta know about Max's father, which makes the visit even more uncomfortable for Max. This scene shows that Max's past still affects him.

Loretta tells Max that doing nothing is a drag. How does her advice help Max decide what to do next?

Example answer: Loretta's advice helps Max because it pushes him to stop hiding from his sadness. I think Max realizes that if he does nothing, he will stay stuck feeling lonely and angry. Writing in the empty book gives him a way to remember Kevin and tell their story. It also shows that Max can use his own voice.

Chapter 1

What does Max tell us about himself in the first chapter, and how does it help you understand the way he sees himself?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

Looking back at the whole story, how has Max changed from the beginning to the end? What helped him change the most?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

Loretta tells Max that doing nothing is a drag. How does her advice help Max decide what to do next?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

Kevin moves in next door to Max. What makes Kevin seem unusual or interesting, and what do you predict Max might learn from him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

Why is the toy bird, or ornithopter, important in this chapter? What does it help show about Kevin and Max?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

How does Max react after losing Kevin? What shows that he is dealing with grief in his own way?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

Why does Kevin give Max an empty book? What do you think he wants Max to understand about stories and memory?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

When Max visits Kevin's house, how do Max and Kevin begin to see each other in a new way?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

The chapter title uses the phrase "spitting image." What does that phrase mean, and why might it be upsetting for Max?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

Kevin talks about his future and the idea of a new body. Do you think he is being hopeful, imaginative, or something else? Explain your thinking.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

In this chapter, Kevin's health becomes a serious problem. How do Max's thoughts and feelings show how much Kevin means to him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

How do Max and Kevin handle the problem with Tony D. and his gang? What does this show about each boy?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

What changes for Max and Kevin when Kevin rides on Max's shoulders? Why do you think they like being together this way?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

How do Max and Kevin work together during the rescue? What does this show about their friendship?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

The "Black Down Under" is an important setting in this part of the story. How does this place add danger or suspense?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

How do Gram and Grim react when they hear about Max and Kevin's adventure? What do their reactions tell you about their fears?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

Kevin says, "Life is dangerous." What do you think he means, and how does this idea connect to his character?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

Why is Kevin's plan surprising in this chapter? What does it show about Kevin's courage and quick thinking?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

How does Killer Kane try to make Max trust him?
What clues help you decide whether Max should believe him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

How does the author make the nighttime adventure feel scary or exciting? Use details from the chapter in your answer.

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

How do Max and Kevin help Loretta Lee, and what does their choice show about the kind of heroes they want to be?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

What does Max learn or remember about his father in this chapter? How does it affect the way Max thinks about himself?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

How does Christmas change when Max's father appears? What feelings does Max seem to have in this moment?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

How do the kids at school treat Max, and how does Kevin help change the way Max feels there?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

Max and Kevin go to Iggy and Loretta's apartment. Why might this place make Max nervous, and what do you learn about the adults there?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

Kevin asks Max to make a serious promise. Why do you think this promise matters to Kevin, and why might it be hard for Max?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
