

# The World Of Dormia

## TEACHER'S GUIDE

### QUESTIONS AND ACTIVITIES BY CHAPTERS

#### Chapters 1-4: The journey begins in World's End, Minnesota

- What is the syndrome that the doctors in St. Paul thought Alfonso had?  
*Note: The answer is Morvan's Syndrome and it is a real malady. Read more about this unusual and very interesting syndrome here ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morvan's\\_syndrome](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morvan's_syndrome)).*
- What was the highlight of Uncle Hill's US Air Force flying career?
- Alfonso received a mysterious crate. Where was it from?
- Add another entry to McBride's Book of Mythical Plants. Make up a strange plant and describe what it looks like and where it came from.

#### Chapters 5-7: The strange port town of Fort Krasnik

- What two groups of longshoremen control Fort Krasnik?
- Alfonso is chosen to be a mole rat. Who is the other person chosen?
- Describe the game of Ballast.
- Who followed Alfonso to Fort Krasnik, and what does this person want?
- Draw a picture of the *Nyetbezkov* according to the description in the book.  
*Note: Did you know that the inspiration for this shipwreck came from Shipwreck Beach on the island of Lanai in Hawaii? Jake visited here in 2004 and was blown away by what he saw. Here is a link to see and read about this incredible shipwreck here ([http://www.gohawaii.com/lanai/plan/things\\_to\\_do\\_on\\_lanai/attractions/points\\_of\\_interest/shipwreck\\_beach](http://www.gohawaii.com/lanai/plan/things_to_do_on_lanai/attractions/points_of_interest/shipwreck_beach)).*

#### Chapters 8-16: Aboard the *Success Story*

- Who helps Vice Admiral Purcheezie operate the *Success Story*? What are their duties?
- Fill in the blanks: “\_\_\_\_\_!” roared Vice Admiral Purcheezie with a burst of girlish laughter. “I haven't seen them in years.”  
*Note: Did you know? Flying fish can soar high enough that sailors often find them on the decks of their ships? Read more about flying fish on the National Geographic website (<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/fish/flying-fish.html>).*



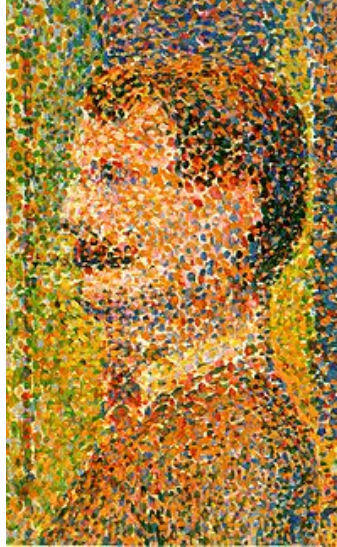
- What does the penguin take from Alfonso?
- Create your own maze that Alfonso takes while running after the penguin. The start will be in the great banquet hall and the end will take him back to the *Success Story*.
- Why does Alfonso go up in a wicker basket? How does he find the solution to their problem?  
*Note: Did you know that the polar explorer, Robert F. Scott, actually used a hot air balloon to help get a better view of his surroundings during his explorations over 100 years ago?*
- According to Vice Admiral Purcheezie, when did time stop in Barsh-yin-Binder
- How did they decide to hide the Dormian bloom?

### **Chapters 17-21: Lying low in Barsh-yin-Binder**

- What is Resuza's daily fee?
- What would you have done if you had come across the people in the cages? Did Alfonso, Hill and Bilblox do the right thing?
- You and your friends are going on an expedition to the Ural Mountains. What would be on your list to bring along?
- At this point in the story, who would you trust more: Kiril or Uncle Hill?
- Now that you know what Barsh-yin-Binder is like, what would you have brought along to help get through the city?

## Chapters 22-26: Escape from the Dragoonya

- Alfonso used a technique while in hypnogogia that reminded him of pointillism. What is pointillism? Here is an example of what it looks like...



- The Dormian bloom has been growing. How much does it weigh, according to Alfonso's estimation?
- What did Hill finally remember after listening to Spack describe her life in Somnos?
- Where did Kiril's family come from?
- Can you guess who the traitor is in the traveling party?

## Chapters 27-34 Into the High Peaks of the Urals

- Who is Sam, and why is he so important to Masha and Rosalina?
- What are the three rules for entering Straszydlo Forest?
- Draw what you think a Straszydlo looks like.
- What part of the Cyclops did Alfonso have to hit with his arrow?
- What would you have done with Bilblox after the avalanche? Did Alfonso make the right decision?
- What bird would you rather confront in a cave, a Eurasian gray falcon or a vulture?

## Chapters 35-43 Entering Somnos

- Why are the Dormians suspicious of Alfonso?
- What do the Dormians call English? Why?
- During their drive through Somnos, Alfonso and Hill come upon a road sign that warns everyone not to drive while awake. Can you come up with another Somnos road sign?
- What did Clink's mother do after sewing clothes didn't pay the bills?
- Why does Bilblox break out of prison?

## **Chapters 44-52, Epilogue**

- Is Ivan a better driver while awake or asleep?
- Can you think of any other songs that would've helped the Dormian soldiers fall asleep even with the pounding of the war drums?
- What did Bilblox's medal proclaim?
- The seeds of which two plants are buried nearby the new Founding Tree?
- What strange plant is in both World's End, Minnesota and Somnos?