

Discussion Question Addendum for *Ghost Boys*

In order to prepare for upcoming conversations about *Ghost Boys*, we are sharing an additional set of questions designed to help students think critically about the message of the book, specifically as it relates to race relations and community healing.

Discussion Prompts

1. Who did Jerome appear to in the book? Why was this the only living person who could see him?
2. What was Jerome's main purpose in the novel as a ghost boy? Do you think he was successful in his task?
3. Do you think what Jerome was tasked with doing in the novel was fair? Was the difficulty for him (and for Emmett) worth the impact on Sarah?
4. Should we expect the victims of a situation to play a role in correcting things? Is the benefit to others worth it for the additional pain they may experience?
5. What do you think Sarah should do after her experiences with Jerome? What could she do that would adequately bring justice for him?
6. Who else might Jerome have spoken to as a ghost boy? What would he have said to them? Should he have gotten this chance?
7. To what degree are we capable of changing somebody else's beliefs? To what degree are we capable of changing a system that is unfair? What's the difference between the two?
8. When have you encountered racist or biased behavior or beliefs? What was the situation, and did you choose to respond or intervene in some way? Why or why not? What were the potential benefits to you saying something, and what were the potential dangers or costs?