



Not the End of the World
Discussion Questions

1. What surprised you most about this re-telling of the Noah's Ark story? Why do you think the author picked this particular story to tell?
2. Were there any aspects of this re-telling that seemed wrong or misunderstood to you? Were there places where you think the author got the story right? Did you re-read the account of the flood found in Genesis
3. Which character did you like the most? Which did you dislike the most? Why?
4. When the flood came, Shem and Ham guarded the ship, pushing away neighbors as they pleaded for help. Why do you think they were so willing to turn away fellow humans in need? If you were in their shoes, what would you do?
5. What did you think of the chapters told from the various animals' perspectives? Did seeing events through their points of view add anything to the story?
6. Timna took a huge risk when she saved the boy and his baby sister. Why do you think she was willing to defy her father's orders, which came directly from God?
7. Why do you think Bashemath went along with Timna's deception when the baby died? Do you think Shem really believed that he had healed his baby?
8. Which character's actions surprised you the most? Was it a pleasant or an unpleasant surprise?
9. Noah's wife says that "...one man's head is a very small place to try and fit the whole of God's intentions." What do you think she means by this statement?
10. How does Timna's opinion of her father change as the story progresses?

About the Author

I have a very clever older brother called Neil. When I was young, everything he did, I wanted to do. So when, at 14, he had a book published, that became my great ambition of mine. I was also very shy and timid. (I still am.) The one place I dared to have adventures was in my imagination, writing stories. Dad was a fireman, Mum was a teacher. We did not have television at home until I was 9, so you can imagine how exciting it was when we got one.



As I grew up, I went on writing - always and everywhere - never really expecting to get published. I did a lot of jobs - secretary, teacher, journalist, sub-editor. But I wrote as I travelled to and fro to work: it was my hobby. Now I stay home all day and write. It's great, but it still seems odd to earn a living by having so much fun.

Sometimes I go into nearby schools to talk about being a writer and play story-making games, and, of course, to find out what the really important people - the readers - are thinking.

I have written about hundred and fifty books, mostly for children, some for adults; also a play for radio about trawlers sinking and fifty little plays; (I love drama). Maybe you'd like to act some of them. Nowadays, I have an twenty-year-old daughter, Ailsa, to read my stories, a husband, John, to check my stories and a Golden Retriever, Daisy, to eat my stories.

Author information was found at: <http://www.geraldinemccaughrean.co.uk/about.htm>