

## Discussion Questions for Queen Bea

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### Chapter 1

- What words would you use to describe Beatrice so far? Is she someone you would like to be friends with?
- Have you ever felt mad when someone disagreed with you? Should friends always agree with you, no matter what?
- What do you think Ava was thinking when she looked down at her sneakers (page 9)?

### Chapter 2

- Why does everyone want to be Beatrice's partner?
- What are *your* favorite subjects? Are they subjects you're good at? Do you have any subjects you like even though you're not very good at them?
- What do you think this means: "We're human *beings*, not human *doings*?"

### Chapter 3

- Does Beatrice think she is bossy? Do you think she is? Why or why not?
- Why did Beatrice tell Brady to hurry up, then tell him she's not ready to go yet?
- Is Ava a good friend? Why or why not?

### Chapter 4

- Can you figure out the meaning of the word "fretted" (page 29)?
- When Ava said, "You're doing it again," what did she mean (page 33)?
- Do you think Beatrice will really try to be more thoughtful about her words?

### Chapter 5

- Have you ever been "the new kid" (at school, at church, on a sports team)? How did that feel?
- Why do you think Willow is being unkind to Beatrice?
- Why did Ava turn red (page 44)?

### Chapter 6

- What was the most interesting thing you learned from the bee video?
- Why did Brady run away from Beatrice?
- Tell how the short phrases describing the accident (page 53) make you feel. Do you think the scene would feel different if the author used complete sentences here?

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### Chapter 7

- Do you know the story of the boy who cried wolf? Can you tell it in your own words?
- Have you ever felt like Beatrice does when she tells everyone to leave her alone, but she doesn't really mean it (pages 63-64)?
- Why do the other kids call Beatrice *Queen Bea*? Do they mean it in a good way or a bad way?

### Chapter 8

- What gave Beatrice confidence to handle the frame from the hive?
- Out of all the female bees that are hatched, how does only one turn into the queen?
- Why did Beatrice invite her group over to her house?

### Chapter 9

- Why did Beatrice feel nervous when the doorbell rang?
- Name at least two examples of Beatrice trying really hard to avoid being bossy when the kids were working on their project together.
- Why do you think Brady "froze" when he Beatrice at the craft table? What do you think about Beatrice's response?

### Chapter 10

- What does it mean to "have butterflies in your stomach?"
- Name some interesting facts you learned about honeybees.
- Why do think Beatrice stopped to talk to Willow on the way to lunch?

### Overall questions

- How do you think the Bible verse at the beginning of the book applies to this story?
- Is there a character you would like to be friends with? Why?
- Which of the characters in this story is most like you?
- Do you think Beatrice changed at all from the beginning of the story to the end? Who or what influenced that change?
- If you could give Beatrice a bit of advice, what would you say?
- Have you ever experienced a challenge like the one Beatrice faced?
- What was your favorite moment of the book?

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- How did the illustrations add to the story? Can you draw a picture to go along with your favorite scene?
- Is there something special you'll keep thinking about even after you've finished reading this book?