

READERS' & LISTENERS' GUIDE

For Audiences of Every Age
(Short Version)



By N. Penfield Burnett

How to Use This Guide

The following illuminating questions are offered to further enrich the experience of reading or listening to the adventures in *Aerial Skye, A Family of Stories, Volume I*. They are designed as clues for your own, fun exploration of themes and hidden treasure buried within the stories, within the illustrations and within the audiobook sounds.

Aligned with the intended audiences for this story series, these questions are best explored without limiting them to any particular age of reader or listener. Have fun on your exploration and don't be surprised at the imagination travels you each will experience, from the simplest questions to the more complex. See what your youngest member might "see" or imagine within the complex questions offered and what fresh insight your more mature member might "discover" among the simplest questions—and vice versa.

The author welcomes each of you to the vast worlds yet to come within the *Aerial Skye Family of Stories* series. We look forward to hearing about your story journeys.



Reflection

QUESTIONS

A. What does Aerial collect along with ribbons and what does Aerial do with them?

B. Can you find the words “savoring” in Korean? In Spanish? In English?

C. Can you find the word “garden” in six different languages hidden in one of the illustrations?

D. Can you identify Klipklop’s superpower?

E. Does the story imply that the pond fish “hear” the stories and sounds of the garden?

How does the writing allow this inference?

Can you research to learn whether pond fish can “hear?”

F. Which of Alex’s many questions would you like to also ask? Which of Alex’s questions would you like to answer creating your own lines to the Aerial Skye stories?

Reflection

QUESTIONS

G. Can you find the Little Girl in Pink?

Within which illustrations does she appear?

Can you find a clue that reveals whether Bartlett and the Little Girl in Pink know one another?

H. Do you know what a DNA double helix looks like?

When we look at the DNA double helix, must we use a microscope to see it?

I. How many times do you notice among the illustrations the application of a very-close up lens?

How many times in the story do you notice the use of a very far-away lens?

Do these close-up and far-away compositions expand our perspectives by illustrating multiple ways to view scenes in our daily lives?

J. Can you find the themes of “hope” that appear within the several stories?

How do we lose hope and how do we find it again?

How do we help others find hope even when it’s very hard to find?

Can you find descriptions of Nature that remind us how to find “hope” when we face challenging experiences?

Reflection

QUESTIONS

K. Can you research the origins of making wishes while blowing seed pods into the wind?

What rituals do you use when you make a wish?

Do you feel a sense of wonder when you make wishes?

L. Can you use your voice to make the sounds of crickets, birds, foxes, the wind blowing through tree limbs on a breezy day?

Can you record these sounds directly in Nature and listen to these recordings while you are reading or making art or cleaning or caring for loved ones?

M. Can you find a full image of Aerial?

Why do you think the author does not include Aerial's image?

Can you draw images of what you think Aerial looks like?

Draw here!

Reflection

QUESTIONS

N. Can you find an example of humor portrayed in the story that demonstrates the juxtaposition of literal meaning and metaphorical meaning? (Hint: “scratching the earth” is one.)

O. Where in the stories does Klipklop ask a question?

P. Where in the stories does Alex make a choice?

Q. Can you find the words “savoring” in English, Korean and Spanish in the story?

Can you write or draw this word in Korean?

Can you write or draw this word in Spanish?

Can you find these words in the audiobook story?

Draw here!

Reflection

QUESTIONS

R. Where in the stories can you find the question and answer to the query, “Does a seed make a sound when it is moving through air?”

Can you find this sentence in English, Korean and Spanish in the written version?

Can you find this sentence in the audiobook version?

Can you repeat this sentence in these three languages?

S. How many times do you hear singing in the audio version?

Do you like to sing or hum when you are playing or walking or gardening outside in Nature? Have you ever heard a another group of singers perform music a cappella?

T. What are the many benefits of listening to or singing along in a group of people? Think of singing with your friends “happy birthday,” or songs while you are hiking together, or singing a national anthem, or singing in a choir, or singing call and response to birds as they call from the trees, or singing a lullaby to a small person or an adult person as they drift into an afternoon nap or begin their dream journey for the night.

U. Where in these Aerial Skye stories in Volume One can you find the concept of harmony?

Can you identify similar steps displayed among the elements of outdoor Nature and what we learn about harmonizing from Nature?

