



NANCY: An intricately written exploration of the mind of an autistic young man, the Forrest Gump of the detective world. Funny and poignant, sad and terrifying, hopeful and loving. As autism becomes more commonplace, this book will help you become more compassionate for both the people with autistic tendencies and those who love them.



PRISCILLA: O my. Where is God in all of this? Is this what we are coming into – a Godless world? The parents and their affairs? Did they even take Christopher to church?



SALLIE: We're all human, right? Haddon does a great job crafting two parent characters who work at relating to their son and who also make mistakes. I agree with Nancy. This book teaches a lot about autism and love. But each child is different, so be careful not to generalize Christopher.



ABIGAIL: You know autism is one more symptom of our growing ecological disaster. I know one vegetarian who ate fish while she was pregnant to give her baby protein. The child was born severely autistic, they believe due to mercury in the fish. Poor child, poor mother. This book gives me hope, but also makes me sad. Is this what we will become?



MOLLY: What struck me about this novel was the way the author had most of the people be very kind to Christopher. Even the police officers, when they understood, were good. I like that. It's an ideal society. I wish it were real.



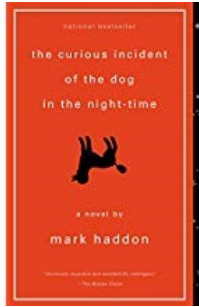
KATHARINE: The brilliance of Christopher is astounding, isn't it? That to me is the marvel of this novel and some autistic minds. How Haddon took us on mathematical escapades through the thoughts of genius, escaping the limitations of his life. Well-written. Loved it.



JANE: : I thought we were supposed to be reading a fun summer mystery. Half way through I put it down for a while. This was a dark one, but I finished it. We live in a dark time. I did find hope here eventually in the love of Christopher's parents and their work to improve themselves and seek forgiveness. God is there, Priscilla. A deeply spiritual book. You must dig deeper.



Discussion Guide



About the Book

Book Title: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

Author: Mark Haddon

Published: Random House, 2004

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Questions for Discussion

1. What were your general impressions of this book?
2. Do you enjoy reading mysteries? Why or why not? Would you classify this book as a mystery? In what ways was it different than most mysteries?
3. Have you known autistic children? Were they like or different from Christopher? Some have faulted this book for not truly depicting autism. What do you think?
4. The parents in this book try hard to parent Christopher well. Where do they succeed? Where do they fail? If you're a parent, what do you think of as your successes and failures as a parent?
5. Why do you think this book is a best seller? How would you rate the book and why?
6. Read over the MAMs comments on the book. Which of them do you most agree with and why?
7. In what ways, if any, will this change your life or perspective?

On YouTube:

Curious Incident Dog Night-Time — Mark Haddon (Interview+Mp3 Link) (22 minutes)

Short summaries/spoilers:

Short Movie: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (8 minutes)

Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime (Book Summary) Minute Book Report