

Theo of Golden: participant questions

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Whole-book spoilers. Optional prompts for adult discussion. Pass on any item without explaining why.

Book: Theo of Golden by Allen Levi. Reference ISBN 9781668236512. Your edition / chapter notes:

Before full-book spoilers

What did the first description of Theo invite you to assume about a stranger in town? | Which early object or place seemed likely to hold a story before you knew whose story it was?

Q01. What difference does anonymity make to a gift in this novel? Compare its effect on gratitude with its effect on obligation.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q02. How does a portrait show something that a short introduction to its subject might miss? Discuss one concrete detail around its use.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q03. When does Theo listen instead of explain himself? What does that restraint make possible, and what uncertainty does it preserve?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q04. Which encounter changes the recipient's sense of being seen? Look for an action or response rather than assuming the gift alone does the work.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q05. How does the town become more than a backdrop to Theo's choices? Identify a local relationship that gives an encounter its meaning.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q06. Where can giving create unequal power even when the intention is kind? Does the narrative recognize that tension in a particular scene?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q07. What role does curiosity play beside generosity? Compare asking about a person with deciding what that person needs.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q08. How does the book reveal identity through ordinary acts rather than a single declaration? Trace one detail that acquires meaning gradually.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q09. Which moment keeps kindness from becoming merely a moral slogan? Discuss the inconvenience or cost that gives it weight.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q10. What does the ending ask you to reconsider about Theo's earlier reserve? Is there more than one way to read that reserve?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q11. How does knowing more about Theo alter the value of a gift already received? What remains meaningful without the later knowledge?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q12. Which connection could continue beyond the last page without Theo at its center? Use the text to explain why that possibility matters.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

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