

***Runaway Twin*** by Peg Kehret

Discussion Questions:

1. Pretend a teacher gave you the first sentence of this book as a story starter. What would *your* story be like?
2. Do you admire any of the characters? Which one and why?
3. What did you think about Sunny finding the \$820?
4. OK, here goes the obvious question: what would you do if you found \$820?
5. Sunny had everything she wanted to remember about her life packed into a suitcase. If you were only allowed one suitcase of memories, what would be in it?
6. What, if anything, made you sad in the story?
7. On pages 47-48 when Sunny adopted Snickers she knew that no matter what happened they'd always have each other. Then she "wondered if this is how it feels when you truly belong to a family." Is that how you would describe family to her? What else could you tell her about family?
8. What did you think of the storm description on pages 81-83? Did the author do a good job? How would you improve it? Has anyone ever been near a tornado?
9. On page 103 Rita says that "you can learn a lot by listening to the people you meet every day." Do you agree? Would anyone be willing to share an example of something they have learned, perhaps from overhearing strangers in a store or...?
10. Charley, the taxi driver, said that "people who are kind to animals can usually be trusted." Has that been true in your experience? Would you be willing to give us an example?
11. I had never thought that Sunny might ask Rita to help her find Starr until Charley mentioned it on page 134. Had you thought of it earlier? If you thought of it, were you pretty sure that Rita would help? What would she have done?
12. On page 185, Sunny compares happy memories and thoughts about her sister with reality. If you were Sunny, which would you prefer?
13. Starr cries (pages 192-193) when she tells Sunny how tough it is to have parents who think she is perfect. This appears to me to be an excuse for cheating on the poetry contest. Do you feel sorry for her? Why or why not?
14. If you were Sunny, would you tell Starr's parents about her cheating on the poetry contest? Why or why not?
15. When I read that Sunny was irritated by people who litter on nature trails and people who don't clean up their dog's mess, I wondered if those were things that irritated the author. If you wrote a book, what messages of your own would you give through your characters?