

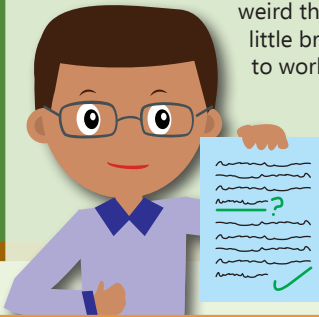
## Extract from Fish in a Tree, Pages 126-128

Mr. Daniels asks us to write about our favorite fictional character - a person we consider to be a hero - and be ready to present to the class.

It's funny how much trouble Albert has with this. He tells Mr. Daniels that looking up a character that isn't real is illogical. Oliver is in his seat listing the names of every superhero I've ever heard of. "...Superman, Batman. Spiderman. Maybe I'll write about him. He shoots webs and swings from buildings. That would be the BEST!"

"Hey, freak," Shay whispers, glancing over at Mr. Daniels, to make sure he can't hear. "We don't need to hear every weird thought in your tiny little brain. We're trying to work."

I keep looking around the room. I love



how Albert can't choose one character while Oliver wants to write about everyone. However, I don't love how much trouble I'm having writing about my character. Makes me wish that I were a fictional character.

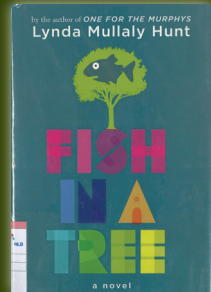
When Mr. Daniels calls me up to his desk, he's holding my paper. A teacher holding my paper is rarely a good thing. But Mr. Daniels doesn't cover my papers with red ink like other teachers. They used to look like they were bleeding.

Mr. Daniels has written in green and he apologizes for not being able to read my writing. He says that my character sounds really interesting, but he'd like to know a bit more. "Ally, will you read this out loud for me?"

Uh-oh. I take it, squeezing my eyes into slits. Trying to read my own writing. I wait for him to pressure me to try harder. To do something I can't do.

### Think about these questions:

- 1 Why do you think Ally wishes that she is a fictional character?
- 2 Why do you think Ally is having so much difficulty in her work?
- 3 Why do you think Mr. Daniels marked Ally's work in green instead of red ink?



**Title:** Fish in a Tree

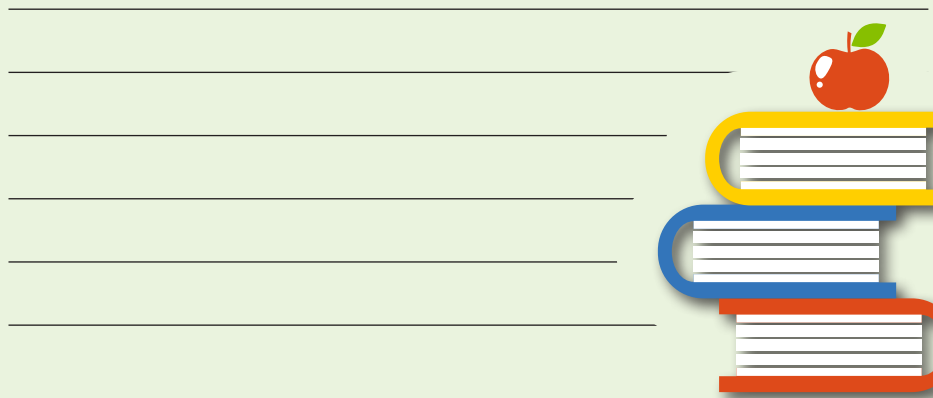
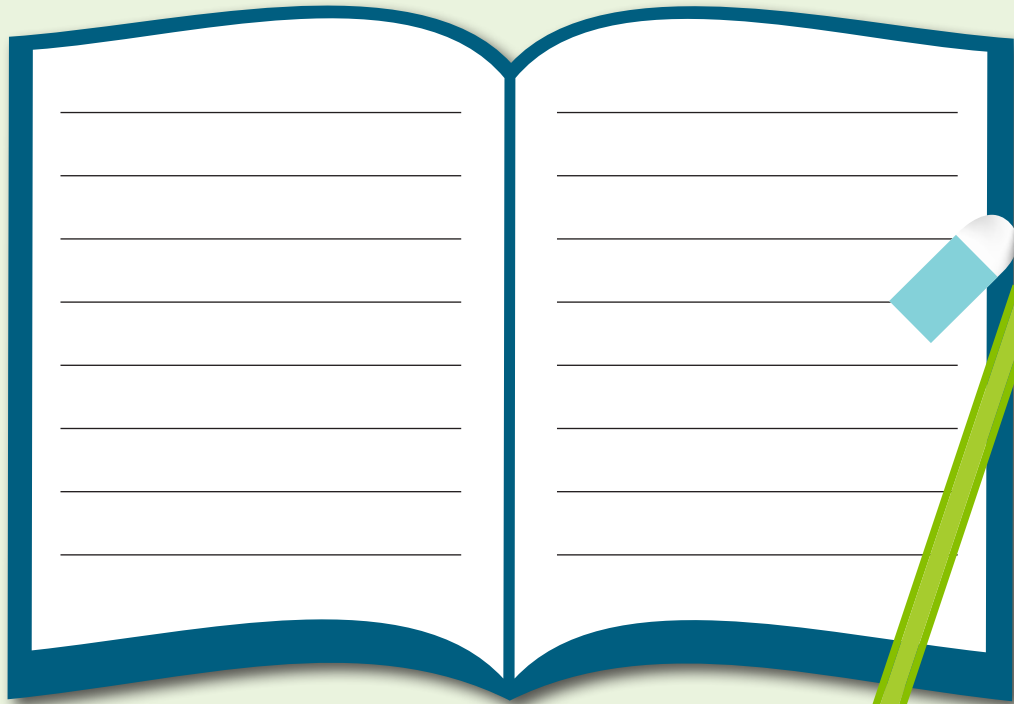
**Author:** Lynda Mullaly Hunt

**Call No.:** J HUN

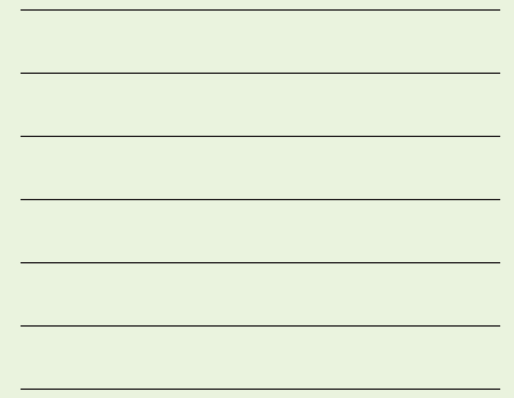
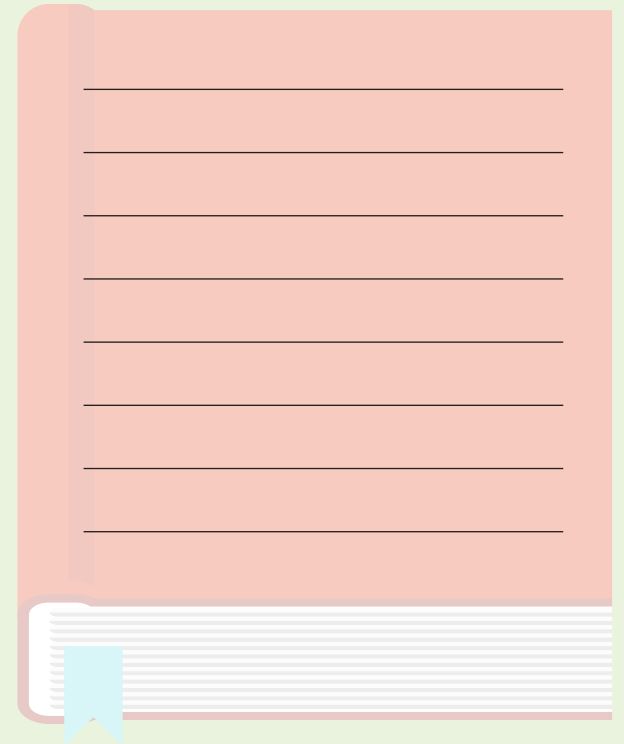
*All Rights Reserved,  
Nancy Paulsen Books, 2015.*

# Talking Points

# My Thoughts



ABC







## Books similar to Fish in a Tree:

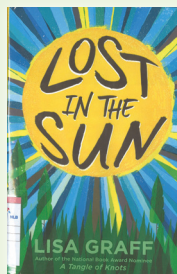
**Title:** Lost in the Sun

**Author:** Lisa Graff

**Call No.:** J GRA

Trent Zimmerman cannot put his sad past behind him and spends his days drawing in his Book of Thoughts. It is only when he befriends Fallon Little, a girl with a scar on her face, that he learns what true friendship means and figures out how to move on.

*All Rights Reserved, Philomel Books, 2015.*



**Title:** May B.: A Novel

**Author:** Caroline Starr Rose

**Call No.:** J ROS

In this verse novel, May's good deed for her neighbour goes awry when she is trapped in a tiny sod house in the dead of winter. She will need all the determination she has to survive the cold and be found.

*All Rights Reserved, Schwartz & Wade Books, 2012.  
(This book is also available on eReads at [www.nlb.gov.sg](http://www.nlb.gov.sg).)*



**Title:** Rain Reign

**Author:** Ann M. Martin

**Call No.:** J MAR

Rose Howard is a girl with Asperger's Syndrome, but her father has never had the time for her. However, Rose and Rain, a lost dog Rose's father brought home, are inseparable. One day just before a storm came, Rain goes missing. Rose is determined to find Rain, even if it means stepping out of her comfort zone. Will she be able to find Rain before it is too late?

*All Rights Reserved, Feiwel and Friends, 2014.*



Go to [www.nlb.gov.sg](http://www.nlb.gov.sg) to check the availability of these books.



National Library Board  
Singapore

All Rights Reserved, National Library Board, 2016.