

Further Reading

Out of My Mind
Sharon M. Draper (2010)
J DRAPER

A brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

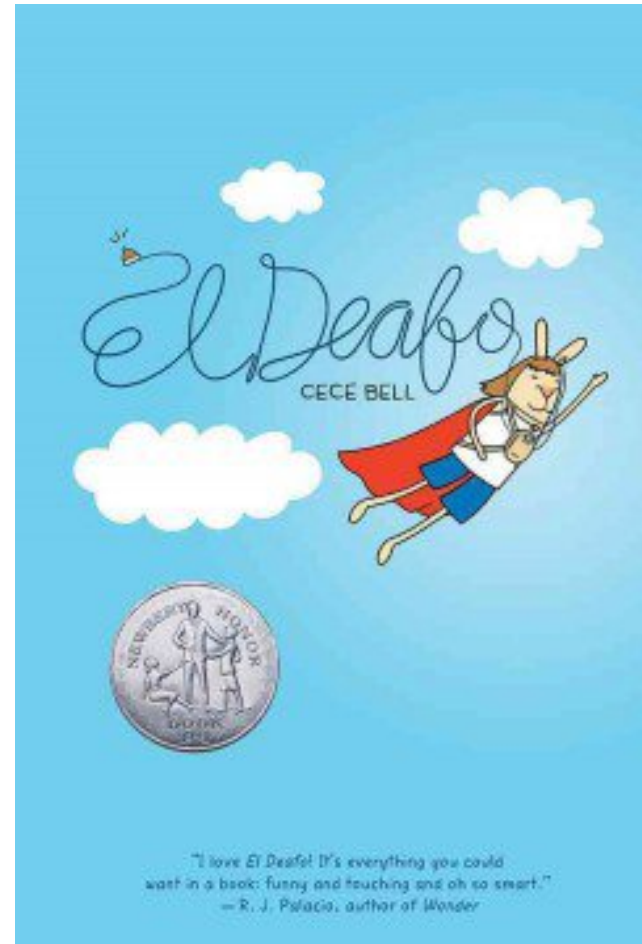
Smile
Raina Telgemeier (2010)
GRAPHIC J TELGEMEIER

An autobiography in graphic novel format describes how the author lost two of her front teeth in an accident when she was twelve, and her subsequent struggles with various corrective dental techniques throughout adolescence.

Wonder
R.J. Palacio (2012)
J PALACIO

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student

Book Discussion Guide





About the Book

Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this graphic novel memoir, Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful and very awkward hearing aid.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think Cece Bell decided to make this story a graphic novel? Did this format help or hinder you in any way?
2. Have you read a graphic novel before? Did you think this was more or less difficult than reading a typical novel?
3. Could you relate to any of Cece's friend relationships? In what ways do Cece's friendships make her happy and comfortable? In what ways do these friendships challenge her and provide difficulty?
4. Did this memoir challenge you to view the world any differently? If so, what did you notice?
5. How are some of the ways the world is configured challenging for those who are deaf? Where do we see assistance for those who are deaf?
6. Why does Cece like daydreaming of being a superhero? How do we see Cece portrayed as a superhero throughout the memoir?
7. How do you take to the title of the book, and Cece's superhero name: El Deafo? Why?
8. At one point, Cece uses the Sonic Ear to eavesdrop on her teacher. Why is this a defining moment for Cece?
9. How does Cece change and grow throughout the book? Can you put yourself in her shoes at any point during the story?
10. Cece does not react well to being taught sign language. This is a common reaction from people in the Deaf Community. Why do you believe she acted this way?
11. What is your biggest takeaway from this story?
12. The audience of this book is intended to be grades 4-9. Do you agree with that assessment? As an adult reader, did you find the story engaging and meaningful? Why?

Courtesy of <https://deathbysundoku.com>

