

# TREMENDOUS THINGS

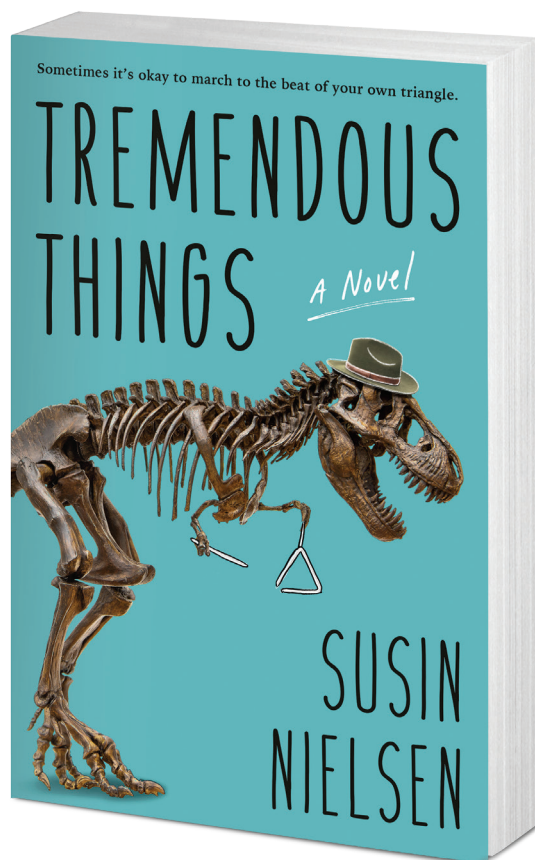
## BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION GUIDE

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR



SUSIN NIELSEN got her start feeding cast and crew on the popular television series *Degrassi Junior High*. They hated her food, but they saw a spark in her writing. Nielsen went on to pen sixteen episodes of the hit TV show. Since then, she has written for many Canadian TV series. Nielsen is currently the

showrunner on a TV series called *Family Law*. Nielsen's first two young adult novels, *Word Nerd* and *Dear George Clooney: Please Marry My Mom*, won critical acclaim and multiple young readers' choice awards. *The Reluctant Journal of Henry K. Larsen* won the prestigious Governor General's Literary Award as well as the Canadian Library Association's Children's Book of the Year. *We Are All Made of Molecules* was shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award, longlisted for the Carnegie Medal and nominated for the Canadian Library Association's Children's Book of the Year. *Optimists Die First* has received four starred reviews. *No Fixed Address* won the Red Maple Award, the Violet Downey Book Award and the Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize. In 2019, Nielsen received the prestigious Vicky Metcalf Award for her body of work. She lives in Vancouver with her family and two extremely destructive cats. Visit her at [susinnielsen.com](http://susinnielsen.com); on Facebook at [Susin Nielsen, Author](https://www.facebook.com/SusinNielsen_Author); and on Twitter at [@susinnielsen](https://twitter.com/susinnielsen).



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What do you think of the book's title? What did it signify to you?
2. Did you think the book was ultimately a love story, and if so, about who?
3. Which character did you relate to the most in *Tremendous Things*, and what was it about them that you connected with?
4. Did any of the characters in the book remind you of someone you know?
5. Which characters in *Tremendous Things* did you like the least and why?
6. What are some of the themes in *Tremendous Things*? Which themes resonated most with you?
7. Did you ever have an embarrassing moment in school, at home or in public? How did you handle the situation?
8. Susin's previous novels are all set in Vancouver; this is her first story based in Toronto. Why do you think she chose this new setting? How does the setting help the story?
9. If you got the chance to ask Susin Nielsen one question about *Tremendous Things*, what would it be?
10. What did you think of the ending of *Tremendous Things*? If you could write an alternate ending, what would happen?

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