

"I can see everything." - Paul Fisher

# Tangerine

## BY Edward Bloor

Study Guide: Novel Questions, Words -n- Phrases, Journal Prompts

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Class Period \_\_\_\_\_



*"I can see everything." - Paul Fisher*

7. Why are the citrus trees burning?
8. How does Paul feel about Dad's enthusiasm for Erik's football practices?
9. What woke Paul up?
10. What does Paul smell when he walks outside?
11. What position does Erik play?
12. What does Paul think will happen to Mike once he gets caught up in the Erik Fisher Football Dream?
13. What is the meaning of the following quote? "It's like we are major leaguers who've been sent down to a minor league city for awhile. We're expected to do great things here and then move back up to the big leagues"
14. Why do you think Mom doesn't worry or complain about the past? Do you think there are things in Mom's past that she doesn't want to worry about?
15. What do you learn about Mom's view of complaining?
16. Why do you think that Paul and his mother keep mentioning things that Dad overlooked when planning the move to Florida?
17. What do you learn about Paul's eyesight? Why does he say he can see fine?
18. What does Paul's father do for a living?
19. What position does Paul play on the soccer team?
20. What is Erik expected to do at the football game?
21. Why doesn't Paul like football?
22. Do you agree with Paul's idea that, in football, someone comes around in the end and steals all of the glory? Explain your answer.
23. What do you think Erik stopped playing soccer?
24. What is Paul trying to say when he talks about all the rain and tangerines?
25. If Paul is so good at playing soccer, why isn't his father as interested in supporting him as he is Erik?

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## PREDICTION

26. What will happen to the Fisher family in *Tangerine*? What problems might the “zombie” Paul talks about symbolize?

\*\*\* As you continue reading, look for your prediction to be proven true or false. When you find your answer, mark the spot in the novel with a post-it note stating “True” or “False” and why. Be prepared to share this with the class.

## WORDS AND PHRASES – DISCUSS AND DEFINE

What is the significance of the following words/phrases from pp. 1 – 32?

1. Dumpster behind the 7-Eleven \_\_\_\_\_
2. Hauled it out to the curb \_\_\_\_\_
3. Swizzle stick \_\_\_\_\_
4. Evidence \_\_\_\_\_
5. Magnifying glass \_\_\_\_\_
6. Something about them fascinated me. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Receding line of back mailboxes \_\_\_\_\_
8. Dinnertime \_\_\_\_\_
9. Animal predator \_\_\_\_\_
10. Snarling \_\_\_\_\_
11. Recognized \_\_\_\_\_
12. Tilted up my sports goggles \_\_\_\_\_

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13. Clear and detailed \_\_\_\_\_
14. Passenger window \_\_\_\_\_
15. Baseball bat \_\_\_\_\_
16. Impossible speed \_\_\_\_\_
17. Pedaled as hard as I could \_\_\_\_\_
18. Glance into my bike mirror \_\_\_\_\_
19. I scrambled back up \_\_\_\_\_
20. Ran in absolute terror \_\_\_\_\_
21. Perfectly aligned \_\_\_\_\_
22. Vertically and horizontally \_\_\_\_\_
23. Industrial park \_\_\_\_\_
24. Huge bonfire of trees \_\_\_\_\_
25. Retraced my steps \_\_\_\_\_
26. Groped around for my glasses \_\_\_\_\_
27. Portable Phone \_\_\_\_\_
28. A look of pure puzzlement \_\_\_\_\_
29. Homeowner's Association \_\_\_\_\_

## **JOURNAL**

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*"I can see everything." - Paul Fisher*

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**Part ONE: AUGUST 28 (p. 32) – September 8 (p. 69)**

**Discussion Questions:** All discussion questions should be answered THOROUGHLY on your own paper and turned in on the assigned due date.

1. What does Paul realize about all the housing developments in which he has lived?
2. What did Erik's friends call Paul when he was in kindergarten? Why?
3. What does Paul notice in the old family photographs?
4. How do teachers and adults make an example out of Paul?
5. Why do you think Paul is so upset about having to follow Keri around all day long?
6. What does Mom do to Erik every night at dinner?
7. What does Paul think is strange about Erik and driving?
8. Why does Paul think Arthur will do anything Erik asks?
9. What does Paul think is strange about Erik and driving?
10. What techniques does the author use to develop Erik's characters?
11. What does Mom say about the house she grew up in?
12. What does the fact that Mom never lived in a nice house have to do with her attitude now?
13. What has happened to the Donnelly house?
14. Why does Joey say that the Donnelly house is probably the safest in the whole world?
15. What does Joey tell Paul about lightning?
16. What does Erik tell Mom about Mike Costello?
17. Why do you think Joey tries to take off Mike's shoes?
18. Erik and Arthur are laughing about Mike's death. How does this make Paul feel? His mom?
19. Paul writes, "Now Mike is dead. But the Dream lives on." What does he mean?

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20. What does the school do in response to Mike's death?
21. How would Paul feel if Erik died? What does Paul say Erik would take with him?
22. What happens at Paul's house when Mom calls the parents of the football players?
23. What is the outcome of the meeting?
24. What did Coach tell Paul at practice?
25. Paul mentions the line of osprey crossing the sky to their nests again. What does Paul think is in the bird's mouth? What might these birds symbolize?

### **WORDS AND PHRASES - DISCUSS AND DEFINE**

What is the significance of the following words/phrases from pp. 32 - 69?

1. Perfectly aligned \_\_\_\_\_
2. Vertically and horizontally \_\_\_\_\_
3. Industrial park \_\_\_\_\_
4. Huge bonfire of trees \_\_\_\_\_
5. Retraced my steps \_\_\_\_\_
6. Groped around for my glasses \_\_\_\_\_
7. Portable Phone \_\_\_\_\_
8. A look of pure puzzlement \_\_\_\_\_
9. Homeowner's Association \_\_\_\_\_
10. We're wilting \_\_\_\_\_
11. Suit yourself \_\_\_\_\_
12. In a raspy voice \_\_\_\_\_

13. A scattering of laughter \_\_\_\_\_

14. I must emphasize \_\_\_\_\_

15. Restrictions due to insurance \_\_\_\_\_

16. Calisthenics \_\_\_\_\_

17. Checked out my goggles \_\_\_\_\_

18. Rolled wide of the goal \_\_\_\_\_

19. He seemed genuinely surprised \_\_\_\_\_

20. Soccer practice was a colossal drag. \_\_\_\_\_

21. Clueless toe stubbers \_\_\_\_\_

22. His loss is a personal loss for me \_\_\_\_\_

23. Plant a tree in his memory in our entranceway \_\_\_\_\_

24. He got even sornier a few seconds later \_\_\_\_\_

25. Visually impaired \_\_\_\_\_

26. Straighten this out \_\_\_\_\_

27. White satin interior \_\_\_\_\_

28. Who was crying uncontrollably \_\_\_\_\_



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8. Do you think anything will happen to Paul because he ratted on the Tangerine soccer players? Explain your answer.
9. What is happening to all of the portable?
10. How are the students told to get home after the sinkhole causes "issues"?
11. How does the sinkhole affect Paul's life?
12. What does the sinkhole symbolize in this story? Why didn't the author have Tangerine Middle School sink?
13. What does Gino tell Paul about the rules? How do you think this makes Paul feel?
14. Why does Charley Burns lose his job?
15. Why does Paul want to go to Tangerine Middle School?
16. What does Mom want to do about Paul and his school?
17. Do you think Paul means it when he tells his dad that it's okay that he doesn't pay much attention to him? Discuss how much time parents should spend with their children.
18. How does Dad react when Paul tells him that he doesn't pay attention to him?
19. Why does Paul say that the heavens opened up for him?

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## WORDS AND PHRASES - DISCUSS AND DEFINE

What is the significance of the following words/phrases from pp. 69 - 92?

1. Passed through a turnstile \_\_\_\_\_
2. Looked like a swinging-ax pendulum \_\_\_\_\_
3. I was really fascinated as I prowled through the dark, partitioned rooms \_\_\_\_\_
4. Live footage shot by a helicopter \_\_\_\_\_
5. How small the crater was \_\_\_\_\_
6. Fifty yards \_\_\_\_\_
7. Minor injuries \_\_\_\_\_
8. Overnight for observation \_\_\_\_\_
9. Portable 19 rescue brigade \_\_\_\_\_
10. Geologist \_\_\_\_\_
11. Underground cavern \_\_\_\_\_
12. Everything on the surface above it collapsed \_\_\_\_\_
13. Massive damage \_\_\_\_\_
14. Angry and agitated \_\_\_\_\_
15. She's hysterical \_\_\_\_\_



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8. Why was Joey trying to get Mike's shoes off?
9. What does the coach mean when she says, "There's no way this team can beat you. You can only beat yourselves."?
10. What happens to Paul's eyes while he is playing? How does his team respond?
11. What does Victor tell Paul is going to happen on Monday?
12. What does Joey tell Paul is going to happen on Monday?
13. What did Joey's father ask Mrs. Gates to do about Joey's schedule?
14. How does Paul explain the soccer team to Joey?
15. What are the differences between the students who attended Lake Windsor and the students who attend Tangerine Middle?



## **PREDICTION**

16. How will Joey handle going to school at Tangerine Middle? Where will he fit in? Explain your answer.

\*\*\* As you continue reading, look for your prediction to be proven true or false. When you find your answer, mark the spot in the novel with a post-it note stating "True" or "False" and why. Be prepared to share this with the class.

## **WORDS AND PHRASES - DISCUSS AND DEFINE**

What is the significance of the following words/phrases from pp. 95 - 123?

1. Take two \_\_\_\_\_
2. Menacing-looking gangs \_\_\_\_\_
3. First impression \_\_\_\_\_

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4. It was pretty much downhill after that \_\_\_\_\_
5. It was eerie \_\_\_\_\_
6. Cafetorium \_\_\_\_\_
7. Disinfectant smell \_\_\_\_\_
8. Start the scrimmage \_\_\_\_\_
9. A vintage green one \_\_\_\_\_
10. Plaid work shirt \_\_\_\_\_
11. A panicked feeling \_\_\_\_\_
12. Closed my eyes in despair \_\_\_\_\_

**Part TW@: September 23 (p. 123) – @ct@ber 4 (p. 155)**

**Discussion Questions:** All discussion questions should be answered THOROUGHLY on your own paper and turned in on the assigned due date.

1. How do you think Mom feels about Erik having to play in the afternoon rainstorm?
2. What happens during the game since it starts so late? How do Paul, Mom, and Dad each react?
3. Why does Paul think that someone is going to "pay" for Erik's humiliation?
4. Why does Paul think that his parents would watch him play if he played football instead of soccer?
5. What does Coach tell Victor to do during halftime?
6. Why is Paul surprised when Cara calls him?
7. Why does Cara call Paul?
8. What conclusion does Paul come to about Kerri?
9. How do you think Joey should have handled Victor when he was giving him a hard time?
10. What ends up in the newspaper report about the female soccer players?
11. Why does Joey think that Tino is bad news?
12. Why doesn't Paul feel the same way about Tino?
13. What does Paul do to upset Joey in science class?
14. How would you characterize Joey?
15. Using a Venn diagram, compare and contrast Tina and Joey. How are they alike and how are they different?
16. Would you want to be friends with Tino and his group? Why or why not?
17. What could all of the neighborhood's problems symbolize?
18. What does Paul find on his father's computer? What does it mean for The Fishers?

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## PREDICTION

20. What will happen as a result of all the robberies in the neighborhood? Explain your answer.

\*\*\* As you continue reading, look for your prediction to be proven true or false. When you find your answer, mark the spot in the novel with a post-it note stating "True" or "False" and why. Be prepared to share this with the class.

## WORDS AND PHRASES - DISCUSS AND DEFINE

What is the significance of the following words/phrases from pp. 123 - 155?

1. They were milling around both end zones \_\_\_\_\_
2. They gestured back to the others \_\_\_\_\_
3. Like they were pantomiming \_\_\_\_\_
4. A squadron of police cruisers \_\_\_\_\_
5. A soggy cheer \_\_\_\_\_

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8. What happens to Erik's football reputation?
9. What does Paul mean and what is he referring to when he says that they are all becoming big fish in a little pond?
10. How is soccer affecting Paul's life right now?
11. What does Paul like best about the tangerine business? What does Luis like best?
12. What does Paul do with Luis and Tino all day?
13. What happened to Luis's knee?
14. Why is Paul's family going to the Donnelly's?
15. Why is Paul's family shocked when they hear Mr. Donnelly say that he is pleased to meet Paul?
16. Discuss Paul's flashback to his old garage. Why is this significant?
17. How do you think Paul will feel when he plays against his old friends at Lake Windsor Middle?
18. What does Paul learn about Coach Bright?
19. What does Paul mean when he says that the homes in Lake Windsor are as phony as the Erik Fisher Football Hero Smile?
20. What does the coach mean when she says, "If you retaliate, you're playing their game. If you get focused on soccer, you're playing our game."?
21. What does Coach Walski try to do to Paul?
22. What does Coach Bright inform Coach Walski about Shandra?
23. How do you think Paul feels when Gino says that Paul is the reason he missed the shot? Explain your answer.
24. What do you think Paul is talking about when he tells Mom that it had been "quite a ride"?
25. What is significant about Erik attending school in Lake Windsor and Paul attending school in Tangerine? What could these two places symbolize?



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## **WORDS AND PHRASES - DISCUSS AND DEFINE**

What is the significance of the following words/phrases from pp. 156 - 194?

1. Down in an alcove \_\_\_\_\_
2. Fax modem and web navigator \_\_\_\_\_
3. Spewing insecticide \_\_\_\_\_
4. Quonset hut \_\_\_\_\_
5. Genius at horticulture \_\_\_\_\_



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7. What does Mom do at the storage shed? Who else has access to their storage?
8. How does Paul respond when Mom says that it is natural for an athlete's grades to drop during the season?
9. Why does Paul decide that Erik's hitting Tino is not something that Mom needs to know about?
10. What happens when Luis confronts Erik?
11. How do Grandmom and Grandpop feel about the Erik Fisher Football Dream?
12. What does Paul decide to do after school?
13. Why do you think that everyone is so surprised and concerned about Paul at this point?
14. Mom is silent on the phone. Why might she be acting weird? Why do you think she talks to Paul about trust?
15. What do Paul and Luis talk about?
16. Why is Paul humiliated when he wakes up in the hut?
17. Describe the difference between how Erik and Paul treat people.
18. Why doesn't Paul go to Erik's football game?
19. What does the paper say about the kicking in the big game?
20. What do you think happened to Paul while he was outside?
21. What do you think caused Paul to pass out?
22. Who does Dad think vandalized the wall?
23. What does Paul mean when he says that he cannot remember why he feels so weird, at least "not yet"?

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## PREDICTION

24. What will Paul remember from his past?

\*\*\* As you continue reading, look for your prediction to be proven true or false. When you find your answer, mark the spot in the novel with a post-it note stating "True" or "False" and why. Be prepared to share this with the class.



## PREDICTION

25. How will Erik and Arthur get a "new attitude" on Monday?

\*\*\* As you continue reading, look for your prediction to be proven true or false. When you find your answer, mark the spot in the novel with a post-it note stating "True" or "False" and why. Be prepared to share this with the class.

## WORDS AND PHRASES - DISCUSS AND DEFINE

What is the significance of the following words/phrases from pp. 197 - 230?

1. The cold in Florida versus the cold in Ohio \_\_\_\_\_
2. Got the extension \_\_\_\_\_
3. Unseasonably cold weather \_\_\_\_\_
4. I'm going out to the storage bin \_\_\_\_\_
5. Clutching their book bags to their bodies \_\_\_\_\_
6. Unflinching, like a northern kid \_\_\_\_\_
7. Filling up smudge pots \_\_\_\_\_

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8. The battle would resume at sunset \_\_\_\_\_
9. Panic-stricken \_\_\_\_\_
10. Like a Thanksgiving wishbone \_\_\_\_\_
11. Vertical orange tank \_\_\_\_\_
12. Maybe I was an afterthought \_\_\_\_\_
13. Line of metal contraptions \_\_\_\_\_
14. "Tu saves." he replied \_\_\_\_\_
15. We emerged from the old grove \_\_\_\_\_
16. He paused for emphasis \_\_\_\_\_
17. A rickety corrugated-iron shed \_\_\_\_\_
18. Fierce and increasingly desperate battle \_\_\_\_\_
19. Belching foul-smelling smoke \_\_\_\_\_
20. We all trudged obediently \_\_\_\_\_
21. His hand moved automatically \_\_\_\_\_



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8. Why do think that Tino and Victor chose to attack Erik and Arthur in such a public place?
9. Why, for the first time, is Paul not afraid of Erik?
10. Discuss what really happened to Paul's eyes. Is it surprising? How does the author prepare the reader for this revelation?
11. What is Paul's response about learning the truth about his eyes?
12. Why didn't Mom and Dad tell Paul the truth about his blindness?
13. Is it good that Paul remembers what really happened to him? Explain your answer.
14. What does Coach Bright ask Paul?



## **PREDICTION**

15. What is the important meeting going to be about tomorrow? Why is Erik "hiding his face"? Write your answer here.

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8. Why are the cops looking for Arthur?
9. Why do you think Paul chooses to tell the police the whole story? How do truth and lies function in the story?
10. Why do you think Grandpop tells Mom that the house is beautiful and not anything like any of the houses he made her live in?
11. Why does Theresa think that Paul has messed up his whole life coming to her school?
12. What happens to Paul, Tino, and Victor? Are they given a fair punishment?
13. Why is it so important to Paul that he is going to be feared?
14. How does Mom and Dad's behavior toward Paul change? Why is this significant?
15. Why is it important that Tino calls Paul?
16. What does Paul mean when he says "...I heard Erik pacing back and forth, back and forth, in the cage he had made for himself." (292)
17. What does Paul think about Mike's tree?
18. What is significant about Dad taking Paul to school?