Study Questions for Miya’s Dream

Chapters 1-2

1. What is Miya’s relationship with her father? Use examples from the text to support your answer.
2. What do you think would happen if she told Dad that the kids called her “Mega Miya?”
3. What is Miya’s plan for being accepted by the rodeo kids? Do you think it will work?
4. Dad says that Dragon isn’t the right horse for Miya. Do you agree with him?
5. How does Miya feel about Dream? Find specific words in the passage to support your answer.

Chapters 3-4

1. Describe Jake Runningdeer. Discuss both his physical features and his personality.
2. What are Miya’s feelings about math class?
3. Abigail gets bullied in the cafeteria. How does Miya feel about this? How does Lily feel?
4. Why is Miya disillusioned about the antibullying programs at her school?

Chapters 5-7

1. Compare and contrast the way Abigail looks and acts at school with how she looks and acts at home.
2. What is Miya’s plan for lunch?
3. Describe Mr. O. Do you think he understands Miya’s real reason for wanting to be in his classroom during lunch?
4. How do you think Lily is feeling in chapter 7?
5. Do you agree with Mr. O. that Miya should try an easier sculpture? Why or why not?

Chapters 8-9

1. In Chapter 8, Lisa, Abigail’s grandmother says, “Don’t give up on your hopes. Giving up on small ones leads to giving up on bigger ones. And life without hope is nothing.” Do you agree with this? Have you ever had to give up on one of your hopes?
2. What is Jake’s goal? What are some of the steps Jake is taking to achieve his goal?

Chapters 10-12

1. In you opinion, did Miya do the right thing when she didn’t ask Lily to eat with her and Abigail in the art room? Why or why not.
2. How does Abigail save Miya? Do you think it was hard for Abigail to speak up to Mr. Callahan so that he would switch his focus from Miya to her?
3. Why is Miya getting frustrated with her sculpture? Do you think she should make something easier now that she’s tried to make a running horse?
4. How does Miya feel both before and after she rides Dream in Chapter 11?
5. How is Lily getting revenge on Miya?
6. Do you think Miya should ride Dream or Frosty when she gathers? Give reasons for your answer.

Chapters 13-14

1. How did Miya, Dream and Jake feel about the goat?
2. Jake and Miya laugh about two childhood memories. What is a memory you have about you and a friend?
3. How do Miya’s feelings about Dream change by the end of gathering day?
4. Do you think Jake gave Miya good advice on he problem with Lily? If Miya follows it do you think she and Lily will become friends again?
5. What happened to Abigail’s parents?
6. How does Miya feel about the advice Lisa gives her? Do you think Miya should follow it? Why or why not.

Chapters 15-17

1. Why do you think that Miya isn’t willing to follow Lisa or Jake’s advice about training Dream?
2. Lily says that she didn’t bully Abigail in the cafeteria. Miya says all the students did. Who do you agree with? Why?
3. The art room is described numerous times in the novel. Draw a picture of how you envision it. Include Mr. O.
4. How did Emily help Miya in PE? Do you think it took courage for Emily to help her? Why or why not?
5. How is Dream’s training progressing in Chapter 16?
6. Was Jake disappointed when he didn’t make a qualified ride? How would you have felt if you were Jake?
7. Jake says to Miya “I’m tired of listening to excuses. Decide you’re going to do it. You may not win the first time out; heck, you might not win the next twenty times, but you’ll be a whole lot faster than you are sitting in the stands daydreaming about it.” Is he being mean or helpful?
8. Miya enters up to run in the next jackpot. Do you feel she and Dream are ready? Use the text in Chapter 16 to support your answer.

Chapters 18-20

1. Is Miya willing to Lisa’s advice as they get closer to the jackpot?
2. Did Miya do the right thing when she stood up to Mr. Callahan? How does she feel about it in Chapter 33?
3. What is Miya worried about when can’t sleep the night before the barrel race? Have you ever been so worried that you couldn’t sleep?
4. What happened to Miya in her very first race?
5. Does Miya regret not listening to Lisa?
6. How do Jake and Mr. Callahan try to help Miya when she returns to school? Do you think they make a difference for Miya after all of the negative comments on her run?
7. Do you think Lily intentionally broke Miya’s sculpture of Dream? Why or why not?

Chapters 21-23

1. Do you think Miya overreacted to losing her sculpture? Why or why not?
2. How do Mom, Jake, Abigail and Lisa try to support Miya?
3. On the bus Jake says that Miya should give Lily a break. Do you agree? Why or why not?
4. How has Mr. Callahan changed by the end of chapter 22?
5. Is it fair that Mr. O. insists that Miya complete a sculpture?
6. Why does Miya agree to try and repair the sculpture of Dream?
7. What do Lisa, Jake and Abigail do to support Miya in Chapter 23? Find examples in the text.
8. What do Skylar and Ella attempt to do to Lily?
9. Should Miya have done what she did or walked away?

Chapters 24-Epilogue

1. Lily never apologized for how she hurt Miya, yet Dad thinks Miya should forgive her. What do you think?
2. How does Lily begin to change by the end of Chapter 47? Find examples to support your answer.
3. Compare and contrast Miya’s second barrel race with her first one.
4. How has Miya changed by the end of the book? What are some of the lessons she learned?

