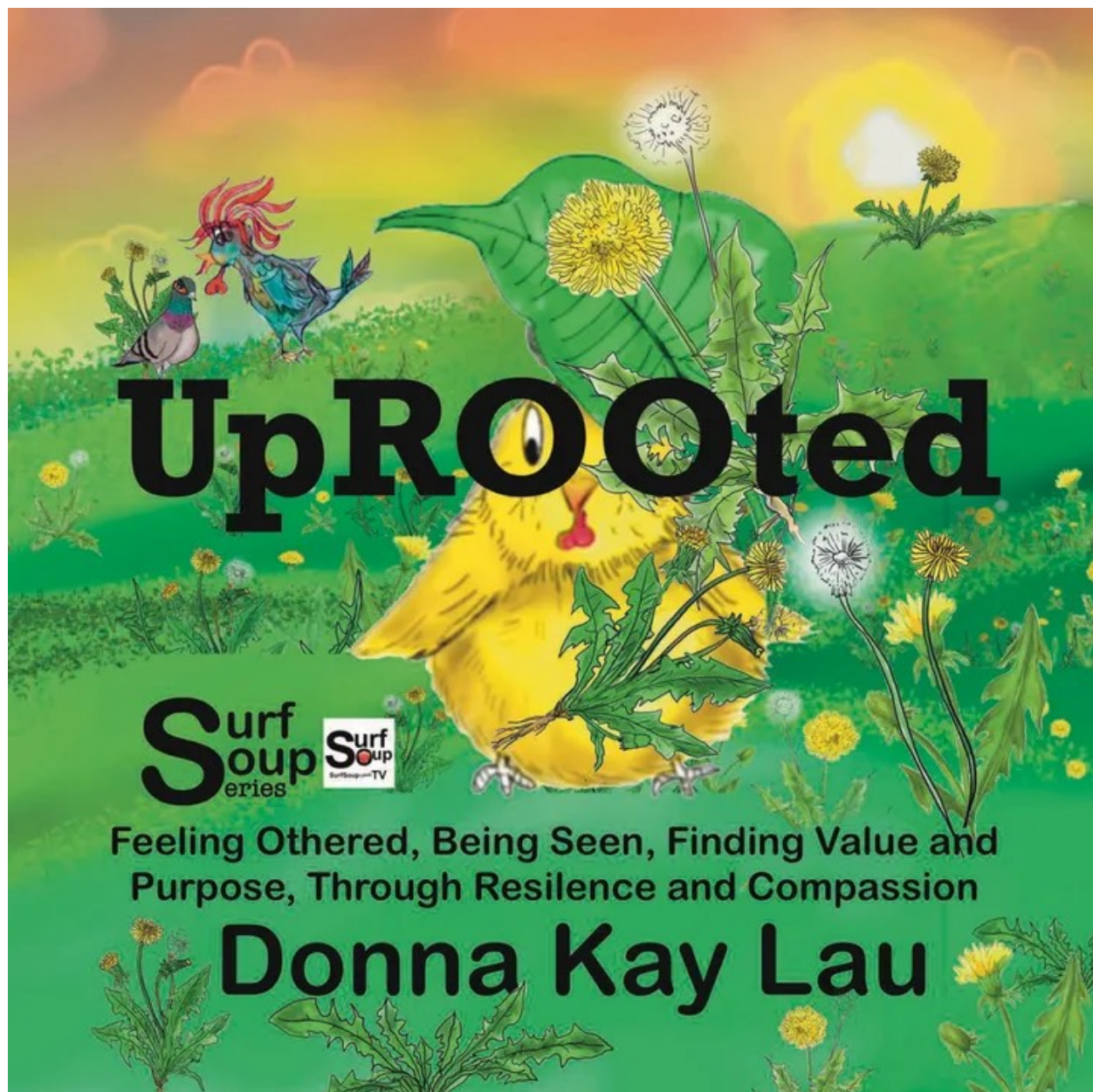




Title: Uprooted

Subtitle: Feeling Othered, Being Seen, Finding Value and Purpose, Through Resilience and Compassion

LCCN: 2022906315

Paperback ISBN: 9798956022124

Uprooted Book Spotlight & Companion Guide

By Donna Kay Lau | Creator of the Surf Soup® Series

Welcome, readers!

This guide is designed to accompany your reading of Uprooted ahead of our special community spotlight event.

Whether you are reading individually, sharing with children, or hosting a local discussion group, use these themes and questions to dive deeper into the world of Surf Soup.



Core Themes to Explore

The Power of Perspective: Plastic Man and Grandma see an unsightly nuisance to be destroyed. Leilani sees a friend to be protected. Auntie Donna sees nutrition and a beautiful tea party.

Remember: We get to decide our own value. Just because someone else labels you a "weed" doesn't mean you aren't a beautiful flower.

The Cycle of Resilience: Leilani tries mason jars, popsicle sticks, the taro patch, and Grandma's garden. Every single time, the dandelions get uprooted again. True resilience isn't succeeding on your first try. It is being willing to frantically replant your dreams again and again, even when you feel completely defeated.

The "Hope Seeds" Connection: At the end of the book, we realize the entire field of happy dandelions grew because a small seed packet was accidentally dropped.

Hope isn't passive. Hope is something we collect, protect close to our hearts, and accidentally spread into the world just by moving forward.



Visual & Storytelling Questions

(Great for Parents & Kids)

The Emotional Shift:

Look closely when the Dandelion says, "I'm just a weed."
How does the artwork show that the dandelions are feeling hopeless? How does their color, expression, or posture change?

Creative Protection:

Leilani and her friends build a safety fence out of popsicle sticks. If you had to build a magical fortress to protect a friend, what everyday items would you use to build it?

Spotting the Clues: Look closely at the very first page and the very last page. Did you spot the little seed packet hidden in Donna's pocket? Where do you think the seeds fell out?



Deep-Dive Discussion Questions

(For the Community)

The Pain of Being Uprooted: Leilani asks, "How sad can you imagine how it would feel if you were uprooted from your home?"

How do we gracefully support children...or ourselves...when sudden life changes force us away from our comfort zones?

Navigating the "Plastic Men" of the World:

Plastic Man wants to destroy nature to build a waterpark for tourists. How do we balance modern progress and personal ambitions without trampling over the natural world or our communities?

The Power of a Compromise:

When Grandma kicks the dandelions out, Auntie Donna finds a beautiful compromise by harvesting them for soup and a tea party. Can you share a time when a harsh rejection actually forced you to find a much better, more creative solution?

What Are Your Hope Seeds?

Donna keeps her Hope Seeds safe in a packet under her bed until they are needed. What is something small you keep close to your heart that gives you hope during hard times?



Resilient Dandelion Trivia Facts 100%

Edible:

From the deep roots to the bright yellow blossoms, every single part of a dandelion is nutritious and completely safe to eat.

Super Roots:

Dandelion roots can grow up to 15 feet deep into the earth, which is exactly why they are so incredibly resilient and hard to destroy.

Ancient Medicine:

Cultures around the globe have used dandelions in traditional tea and soup for thousands of years to aid digestion and wellness.

Heavy Travelers:

When you make a wish and blow on a dandelion seed head, those tiny parachutes can travel up to 5 miles away on a strong wind!



Reflection & Activity

My Dandelion Wish

In the story, Leilani and her friends make a wish before blowing the dandelion seeds. Use this space to write down your own wish for your community, your family, or yourself:_____



Connect with the Author

To learn more about the world of Surf Soup ®, explore upcoming book releases like Hope Seeds, or find educational resources, visit the official channels:

Website: <https://Surfsoup.tv>

Social Media: @Surfsoup @Surfsouptv