

The Shadow Hero Extra Discussion Questions

Chapter 1: "The Green Turtle Chronicles"

1. How does Yang establish different personalities for each of the 4 spirits?
2. How does Hank's mom's experience with the superhero impact her? What does this interaction say about heroes?
3. How does what Hank's mom say, at the end of the first issue, relate to parents, especially Chinese American parents?
4. What is unique about the superhero story?

Chapter 2: "Dawn of a Golden Age"

1. How does his symbol of gold represent his plight and Chinese American's hope?
2. What convinces Hank to go along with his mom's wishes? How does this relate to Chinese American culture, even mainstream culture?
3. What does being a superhero represent?
4. How does trying to achieve his mom's wishes impact him?
5. What do Hank's first "villains" reveal about Chinese Americans?
6. How does he feel about his mom?
7. How does Hank do in his first battle?

Chapter 3: "Fathers and Sons"

1. Why does the Turtle spirit visit Hank? What does this visit mean/symbolize?
2. What does Hank's wish mean?
3. When are shadows used? What do they signify?
4. Describe the relationship between Hank's mom and dad.

Chapter 4: "Fights You Cannot Win"

1. How do the costumes reflect the character's personality and view of Chinese American culture?
2. What is Hank's father's past? What does this story reveal about Hank and his family?
3. How does the color change from page 86-7? What do these changes signify?

Chapter 5: "True Colors"

1. What is Coolie Hat supposed to represent? How does Hank describe it and what does this mean about his perception of Plymouth Rock.
2. What does Hank learn about 10 Grand?
3. What do Ten Grand's daughters reveal about women and their treatment?
4. How do the police of Chinatown feel about Chinese Americans?