

BOOK CLUB in a bag

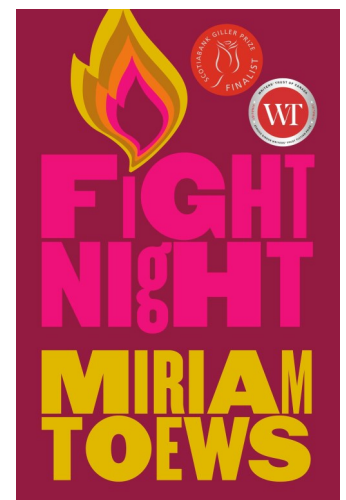


Fight Night

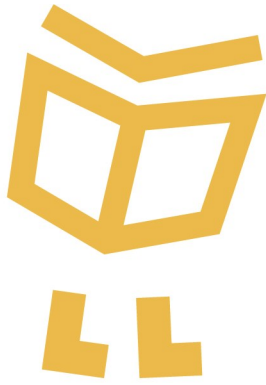
Miriam Toews

Discussion Questions

1. Think about the title *Fight Night*. Why do you think Toews chose this title? What are the characters fighting?
2. Who is the book addressed to, and why is this character not present in Swiv's life? Why do you think Toews chose a letter for the novel's form? What other formal choices do you notice?
3. What kind of kid is Swiv? What makes you think so?
4. What about Grandma/Elvira and Mom/Mooshie? What kind of people are they, and does Swiv see them clearly?
5. What does Swiv mean when she refers to her family's Editorial Meetings? How do the meetings themselves differ from what we might assume based on that phrase? Why do you think she uses it?
6. Who is Willit Braun? Why is he so infamous in Grandma's circles?
7. What happened to Mom/Mooshie in Albania? Why and how does this discovery influence your perception of her character?
8. Talk about Grandma and Swiv's trip to Fresno. Why was it necessary for Grandma to go on the trip, despite her poor health?
9. In Fresno, the people Swiv meets talk about how strong Mom/Mooshie is. How did you understand this emphasis? How did you understand Mom's reaction when Swiv reports this back to her?



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About the Author

Miriam Toews is the author of seven bestselling novels: *Women Talking*, *All My Puny Sorrows*, *Irma Voth*, *The Flying Troutmans*, *A Complicated Kindness*, *A Boy of Good Breeding*, and *Summer of My Amazing Luck*, and one work of non-fiction, *Swing Low: A Life*. She is a winner of the Governor General's Award for Fiction, the Libris Award for Fiction Book of the Year, the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, and the Writers Trust Marian Engel/Timothy Findley Award. She lives in Toronto.

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