

Discussion Questions – A Wish in the Dark

1. What did you think about the book? Did you like it? Why or why not?
2. The book is set in a Thai inspired world. How is this world different from your world? How is it similar?
3. Why are Pong and Somkit at Namwon Prison? What do you think about this?
4. Since Fire is outlawed in Chattana, people use light orbs that they have to buy. Which orb gives off the best light for cooking?
5. Describe the character Father Cham. Why is he an important figure in Pong's life?
6. Who said "If you work hard and follow the law, good things happen to you?"
7. What is the first thing that the governor built when he rose to power? Why do you think he builds this?
8. How does the character Nok Sivapan change from the beginning of the book to the end of the book?
9. What do all prisoners in Chattana get on their wrist? How does this affect Somkit when he tries to get a job?
10. After the Governor is gone, the people feel a little lost since there is no longer anyone telling them what to do. The author asks, "Which was better: being safe or having freedom? And did you have to choose?" (page 372). How would you answer this?