

# THE MINOR RESCUE

THE AMAZING ADVENTURES OF NOAH MINOR



WRITTEN BY  
MEREDITH DAVIS

ILLUSTRATED BY  
BILLY YONG

**DISCUSSION GUIDE**

## ABOUT THE BOOK

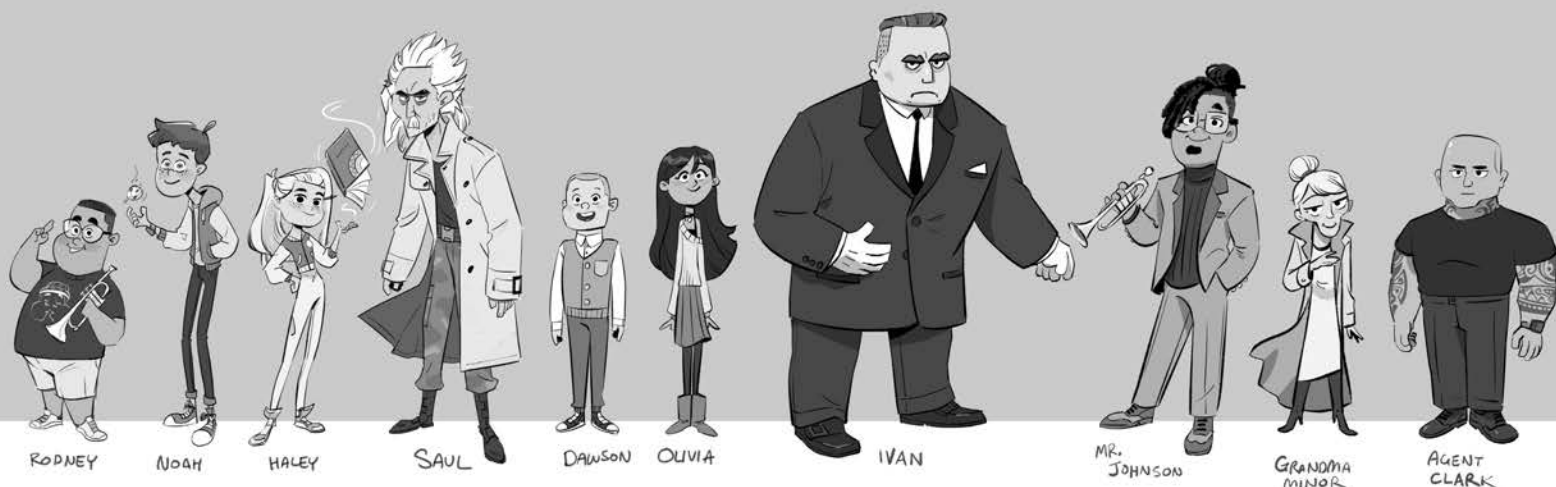
Noah Minor is back for another action-packed adventure—this time in the Big Apple—where he’s hoping to stop Gravitas’ most wanted (and Noah’s great uncle) once and for all!

When twenty-six middle schoolers are kidnapped, Gravitas sends Noah to New York City to look for clues to Uncle Saul’s location. Noah hopes to make things right and prove he isn’t an epic failure. *The Minor Rescue* is the second book in *The Amazing Adventures of Noah Minor*, a middle-grade adventure series featuring a superhero meets secret agent mash-up in a modern-day school setting.

**Themes:** Superheroes and Spies, Friendship, Adventure, Family and Relationships, Self-Esteem, Making Choices, Loyalty

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Meredith Davis is a wife, mother, and grandmother living in Austin, Texas. She is the founder of the Austin chapter of the Society of Children’s Books Writers and Illustrators and holds an MFA in writing for children and young adults from the Vermont College of Fine Arts. Her first book, *Her Own Two Feet*, which she co-authored with Rebeka Uwitonze, earned a starred review in *Publishers Weekly*, was a Junior Library Guild selection, a nominee for the NAACP Image Award, and *World Magazine’s* Children’s Book of the Year for nonfiction.



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- In *The Minor Rescue*, Noah and a few Gravitass trainees are sent to New York City to seek clues about Uncle Saul's possible location. This special mission leads Noah and his friends to places like the Empire State Building, Grand Central Station, Bannerman Island, the Frick Collection, and more. Have you ever traveled to another city? How did you spend your time?
- Consider the Gravitass trainees in the book—Noah, Haley, Dawson, Olivia, and Chuck. Use a word or a phrase to describe each of them. Do they remind you of people you know?
- Fictional characters inspire both Noah and Dawson. Noah channels the Hulk while Dawson admires the boxer Rocky. What is a character from a movie, TV show, or book who inspires you? What traits do they have that you try to copy and channel?
- Chapter 2 describes how Haley spends her time after school and gravitar training to make flyers and organize a rally to save the playground in her neighborhood park from being demolished. Have you ever felt so passionate about something that it inspired you to take action? What happened?
- Grandmother Minor tells Noah and Haley in Chapter 7, "*Nothing is impossible . . . anything is possible with hard work, determination, and the right connections.*" Do you agree or disagree with her statement? Why?
- Noah engages in unsavory name-calling in the book—the use of insulting names and expressions to describe someone—like "teacher's pet," "brainless braggart," and "insufferable clod" to describe Dawson and Chuck. How do you feel when you hear these words? Would you want someone else to say them to you? List some ways you can stop name-calling and help others feel safe and welcome in your community.
- Haley is a model Gravitass trainee who becomes afraid and loses her ability to "press" after an incident with Uncle Saul. That same incident weighs Noah down with guilt. How has a negative emotion held you back or weighed you down?
- Rodney dreaded the time in New York City with his dad and often called on his friends to bail him out. In the end, the father-son duo enjoyed a live jazz jam session at a park. Discuss a time when you participated in something you were not looking forward to that turned out to be memorable.



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Noah struggles with feelings of anger in *The Minor Rescue*. He takes a leaf from the Hulk's book and channels his anger in various situations that affect his body, gravitar training, friendships, and decision-making. Haley encourages him in Chapter 17 to take the time to "think first for once, instead of always running on anger." What kind of anger issues have you experienced? How do you learn to control your emotions?
- Olivia and Dawson help Noah connect the dots to see what he has in common with the kidnapped gravitars: "Each one of the kids on the wall was found lacking by Gravitas. Just like me. We're connected because of it, making me care for them in a way I should have before." Has there been a time when you felt rejected, inadequate, or needed to prove your worth? How did you overcome it?
- "It's a good thing to hope, even when things seem hopeless. And caring is a beautiful thing." Olivia reminds Noah to focus on fighting for all that is true, good, and beautiful, as it will crowd out doubts and fears. What is true, good, and beautiful to you worth fighting for?
- The book ends with the notion that heroes can be ordinary people with super powers. Who are the heroes in your life? What are their super powers?
- *The Minor Rescue* is the second book in The Amazing Adventures of Noah Minor series. What would you want it to be about if the author and illustrator made a third?



**DO YOU REMEMBER ALL  
THE ACTION IN NOAH'S  
STORY? DESCRIBE EACH  
ILLUSTRATION FROM  
THE MINOR RESCUE  
BELOW AND NUMBER  
THEM IN THE  
CORRECT ORDER!**

# STORY SCRAMBLE!















# THE FRIENDSHIP CONNECTION



Noah is connected to the kidnapped gravitars in unexpected ways! Noah and Alice both like frozen hot chocolate. And like Augustine, Noah was also born in July. How do you connect with people in your life?

Create a friendship connection comic strip using the guide below.

Draw yourself in the center, then illustrate and name people who are connected to you in all the most extraordinary ways!

OUR CONNECTION IS ...

OUR CONNECTION IS ...

MY NAME:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

OUR CONNECTION IS ...

OUR CONNECTION IS ...

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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# STORY SCRAMBLE! ANSWER KEY



Noah, Haley, and  
Rodney taking a  
selfie together  
in New York  
(Chapter 15)



Rodney and his dad  
playing the trumpet at  
a park in New York City  
(Chapter 14)



Saul holds Rodney  
and Haley captive  
at the Empire State  
Building as Noah  
rises to rescue them  
(Chapter 25)



Haley sliding at  
gravitas training  
(Chapter 1)



Wolfshaw briefing Noah,  
Haley, Olivia and Dawson  
about Uncle Saul's letter  
(Chapter 5)



Noah watching the news on  
television with his parents  
(Chapter 4)



Grandmother, Noah and Haley  
at the top of the Empire State  
Building (Chapter 10)



# **PRAISE FOR THE MINOR RESCUE**

**"THE MINOR RESCUE WELCOMES READERS TO THE WORLD OF SUPERHEROES, VILLAIN-ISH UNCLES, AND MIDDLE SCHOOL FRIENDSHIPS. NOAH'S NEED TO PROVE HE IS WORTHY OF BEING A GRAVITAR MAKES FOR A COMPELLING MUST-READ."**

—Varsha Bajaj, New York Times bestselling author of *Thirst* and *Count Me In*

**"THE MINOR MIRACLE IS MAJOR FUN! NOAH AND HIS SUPER CREW MAY STRETCH THE LAWS OF PHYSICS WITH THEIR FANTASTIC FEATS, BUT IT'S THE FRIENDSHIPS THAT GIVE THIS STORY ITS TRUE POWER. YOU WILL FIND YOURSELF ROOTING FOR NOAH—AND LAUGHING OUT LOUD—ALL THE WAY!"**

—Christina Soontornvat, bestselling author of *The Tryout*

**"A FRESH, FUN, AND FANTASTIC TAKE ON WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A SUPERHERO!"**

—Cynthia Leitich Smith, author of *Ancestor Approved* and *Sisters of the Neversea*

**"WE MIGHT THINK WE KNOW ALL ABOUT SUPERHEROES, BUT MEREDITH DAVIS, IN HER DEBUT NOVEL, GIVES US A SPECTACULAR NEW ONE—NOAH MINOR. IN A PLOT FILLED WITH TWISTS AND TURNS, READERS WILL DISCOVER THE SAME THING NOAH DOES—THAT SUPERHEROISM ISN'T ALWAYS ABOUT SAVING THE WORLD USING EXTRAORDINARY POWERS. SOMETIMES IT'S ABOUT SAVING YOUR BEST FRIENDS, AND THAT REQUIRES THE MOST AMAZING POWER OF ALL: LOVE. THAT ALONE IS A MIRACLE."**

—Kathi Appelt, Newbery Honoree and National Book Award finalist

**"THIS IS A FAST-PACED, FUN LITTLE STORY FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS. IT RAISES SOME INTERESTING 'WHAT WOULD YOU DO?' QUESTIONS FOR KIDS CONCERNING THE USE OF SPECIAL ABILITIES, SERVICE TO OTHERS, FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES, AND FRIENDSHIP."**

—PluggedIn

**"HUMOR, HEART, AND SUPER HEROICS—ALONG WITH SOME GREAT LIFE LESSONS—AWAIT YOUNG READERS."**

—Reading Is My Superpower

**"A FUN ADVENTURE STORY READERS WON'T WANT TO PUT DOWN!"**

—Kids Bookshelf

**"THIS IS AN ENTERTAINING STORY OF GROWING UP WITH SUPERPOWERS AND MAKING GOOD CHOICES."**

—Imagination Soup

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