

One Book, One Community 2021

Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard

by Douglas W. Tallamy

Book Discussion Questions

1. What was your knowledge or experience with the subject of *Nature's Best Hope* before reading it?
2. Do you feel that American citizens accept or agree with Tallamy's statement that humans will not survive the destruction of nature?
3. Can Homegrown National Park become a reality?
4. Do you think private citizens could be encouraged to restore their properties or amend them by decreasing lawn and planting native on 50% of their private land in order to restore biodiversity? Why or why not?
5. What were your opinions about native plantings and how did your ideas change, if at all, after reading the book?
6. Do you think the author's ten steps each of us can take to make Homegrown National Park a reality are manageable?
7. Did the author convince you with his argument?
8. Do you agree with the author's solutions and recommendations?
9. What experiences have you had with native plants?
10. Have you ever created a bubbler or other water feature, or do you plan to?
11. Have you installed bee hotels? If so, what were the results?
12. What wildlife have you observed in your yard?
13. What to you is the significance of the first chapter, "The Dreamers," about Aldo Leopold and Edward O. Wilson?
14. What do you think are this book's greatest strengths?
15. What is your reaction to the photos and charts in the book? How did they affect your reading experience?
16. What do you feel about the author's writing style in this book? How did it affect you—did it draw you in right away?
17. Did you find the writing accessible and come to understand any terms and concepts in the narrative with which you were unfamiliar?
18. How did you feel as you were reading the book, and then after you finished it?
19. What are your favorite parts of the book?
20. What passages of the book struck you as profound, upsetting, inspiring, or maybe even a bit humorous?
21. What surprised you in this book?
22. Do you find parts of the book memorable? Will they stay with you as you plan any future landscaping, gardening, or yard maintenance?
23. Would you recommend this title to others? If so, to what kind of readers?