



**Out of
Tune**

Book Club

Schedule:

Name: _____

Book Club Members: _____

Meeting Location: _____

	Meeting Date:	Time:	Pages to Read:	Notes:
Week 1				
Week 2				
Week 3				
Week 4				
Week 5				
Week 6				
Week 7				
Week 8				

Chapter Questions

Prologue

1. How and why has the treep plant changed over time? How does this parallel real-world farming practices?
2. Discuss the supply chain of treep products. How efficient is it?
3. Discuss how the hardships of the Ornian farm worker compare to various populations of workers in real life.

Chapter 1 - 3

1. What are your first impressions of Linda Pumpernickel? Are there any aspects of her life or personality that you relate to?
2. What did you learn about where Linda lives? How is this significant?
3. What events led Linda to leave Earth and teach on a foreign planet? Have you ever made a significant change or move in your life? What was it like?
4. Do you think TRASH is an effective waste disposal program? Why or why not? What are the potential risks and benefits?
5. What are the similarities and differences between Snodgester Slayneli's hypothesis on the formation of the universe and the big bang theory?
6. What is universal detuning? Why is Dr. Slayneli concerned about it?

Chapter 4 - 6

1. What new alien species are introduced in these chapters? What makes them biologically unique?
2. Describe Groodle Schmoodler and his various roles. Does he remind you of any real people?
3. What is the PUE? What is the purpose of their meeting with Schmoodler?

Chapter 7 - 9

1. What is the significance of Linda's birthday present from Aunt Norma?
2. What big decision does Linda make at the end of Chapter 9? Why do you think she made this decision? Have you ever had to make a big, life-changing decision?

Chapter 10 - 13

1. What information does Arec Ibo receive from the larvalux? Why is it so concerning?
2. What is the wormline and why is it significant to ITCo? The PUE?
3. Describe planet Nilleby. Is it similar to any places on Earth or planets featured in other science fiction works?

Chapter 14 - 17

1. What does Troodly figure out in her lab?
2. How does Groodle Schmoodler meddle with Linda and Larv's mission?
3. How do Linda and Larv deal with missing their space flight? What do they have to do in exchange for an alternate means of transportation?

Chapter 18 - 19

1. What is Troodly's disaster?
2. What potential disaster does Larv face?
3. What problem arises for Linda and Larv?

Chapter 20 - 22

1. What is Choodlen's surprise?
2. How does Troodly plan to fix "The Disaster"?

Chapter 23 - 26

1. Give examples that highlight Linda's problem solving ability.
2. Describe the environment on planet Oodle and how it relates to the oodlean body plan.
3. What risk does the Mabitu take by going to planet Oodle?

Chapter 27 - 29

1. Where and when does the wormline lead?
2. What does Troodly discover about the birds on this planet?
3. Who is Arec Ibo's unexpected visitor? What is his message?
4. What happens to Linda and Larv?

Chapter 30 - 33

1. What is the shockwave?
2. What is "The Plan" and how is the vial of antidote involved?
3. What is Linda's role in carrying out "The Plan"?

Chapter 34 - 36

1. What is planned obsolescence/ perceived obsolescence? How is it exemplified by the space ships? What are some examples from real life?
2. How does Linda take one for the team? Have you ever taken one for the team?
3. What strange event occurs on the PUE's spaceship? Why?
4. What is the crystalline structure that they see float past the window?

Chapter 37 - End

1. What is Larv's fate?
2. What sorts of changes do Linda and the Mabitu notice after tampering with the space-time continuum?
3. How is the epilogue tied to the prologue?
4. Was the ending satisfying or not? Why do you think the author chose this?



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Discussion Topics

1. Why do you think the author included the phylogenetic tree of life at the beginning of the novel, as well as the scientific names of each species in the chapter subtitles/ footnotes? Did you find them useful or interesting?
2. If the book was made into a movie, who would you cast to play each of the characters?
3. What was your favourite part of the book?
4. What did you think of the writing? Were there any sentences or passages that stood out to you?
5. If you could ask the author anything, what would it be?
6. How thought-provoking did you find the book? Did it change your opinion about anything or did you learn something new?
7. How did the book make you feel? Were there any parts that made you laugh, cry, cringe, feel anger or frustration, etc.?
8. Who is the author and how does their background relate to the book? Do you think they had a specific purpose or goal for writing it?
9. Did the author use any literary devices, techniques, or style to enhance their writing? To what effect?
10. What were the main themes/ messages of the story?
11. Who was your favourite character and why?
12. Which character did you relate to or empathize with and why?
13. Which character did you dislike or disagree with and why?
14. Did the author use any scientific or technological concepts or theories to support their story?
15. What does the world of the book say about our actual world? Is it optimistic or cautionary?



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Fun Ideas

Tea Party

Linda Pumpernickel loves drinking tea. Have a tea party themed book club meeting. or each meeting, choose a different book club member to bring tea and/or baked goods.

Spü for You

Chapter 31 introduces a beverage called Spü, complete with a description from the label on the bottle. For this week's meeting, book club members can create their own drink, give it a fun name and a description, and even bring it to share with the group.

Oodles of Noodles

Oodleans love to eat noodles, perhaps due to their similarity to the woodlerms that are their natural food source on planet Oodle. Have a noodle-themed book club meeting where each member brings a different noodle dish. Alternatively, assign a member to bring a noodle dish to each meeting.

Linda's Birthday Party

Recreate the spread from Linda's birthday party and enjoy appies and birthday cake at your book club meeting. You could even try to create Linda's famous peach punch!

Dress up Day

Dress up as your favourite Out of Tune character for one of your book club meetings. You may need to add some limbs to your costume!