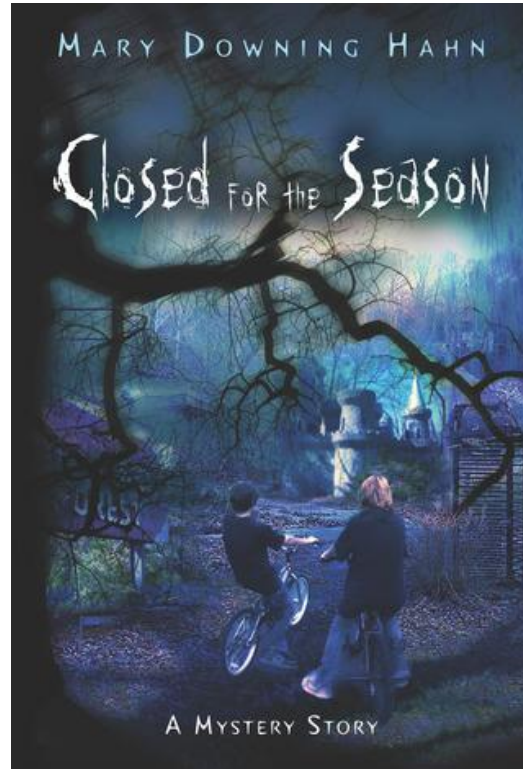


***Closed for the Season*** by Mary Downing Hahn (Houghton Mifflin, 2009)

*When two friends try to solve a murder they encounter an abandoned Magic Forest amusement park, a secretive reporter, a menacing convict, and stolen library materials. Eerie, creepy and surreal.*

### **Discussion Questions**

1. Next door neighbor Arthur is there from the moment Logan and his family move into their new home which is called the “murder house.” On p. 21 the librarian says – “Are you a bookworm like Arthur?” And Logan feels doomed to be Arthur’s friend. Why is he at first reluctant to be friends with Arthur?
2. In some ways Arthur seems rude, he barges right into Logan’s kitchen, helps himself to cereal and other snacks. Why do you think he acts this way?
3. For a nerdy kid Arthur seems brave - standing up to nasty people like Billy Jarmon. P. 53 when Logan asks him why he is sassing/provoking Billy – he says because Billy is a “despicable ignoramus.” Why would Arthur want to provoke a dangerous person like Billy?
4. Logan is a good kid who usually listens to his parents, but with Arthur as his sidekick he ends up trespassing into the Magic Kingdom, and then doing a little “informed borrowing” from the reference section of the library. Do you think the boys were justified in trespassing and “borrowing” the maps in order to try and find the money?
5. Logan’s mother forbids him to see Arthur who she thinks is a bad influence on Logan. She takes Logan to the Rhoda’s DiSilvio’s house for a day to be with Rhoda’s son and his friends. How is this “play date” different than the adventures Logan has been having with Arthur?
6. When Anthony and his friends make fun of Arthur calling him a weird, why does Logan stand up for him?
7. Why does Logan and his father really dislike the DiSilvo’s party, but his mother thinks it is a fun time?



8. At the novel's climax where does Violet find the courage to stand up to her ex-husband and tell him that she is not going to show him where the money was hidden?
9. Why does Bear decide to stay with Danny?
10. Was there any part of solving the mystery that surprised you?

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