Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter by Ben Goldfarb

An environmental journalist discusses why beavers are so important to the ecosystem and follows a growing number of passionate “Beaver Believers,” including scientists, ranchers and regular citizens, who are working to help restore the helpful rodent to its habitat.


Questions for Discussion

1. How well does the author relate the contents of the book? Does the author provide enough background material on the subject to allow readers to get involved?

2. What did you know about beavers prior to reading the book? Did you learn anything new about them?

3. What did you find to be the most interesting events in the book? What, if anything, surprised you?

4. What part of the book resonated most with you personally in either a positive or negative way? Why?

5. Were there any particular quotes that stood out to you? What were they and why?

6. The way a non-fiction book is written can impact a reader’s enjoyment and understanding of it. Was the book written in a way that was easily accessible?

7. What are the implications for the future?

8. What solutions does the author propose? Who would implement those solutions? How probably is success?

9. Did the author provide pertinent web links for readers to use? Did the author provide a suggested reading list for further information? If so, would the group consider reading any of the suggestions?