***Forest of Wonders***

By Linda Sue Park

### **Annotation:**

Raffa Santana has always loved the mysterious Forest of Wonders. For a gifted young apothecary, every leaf has the potential to unleash a kind of magic. If only Raffa's father would allow him to experiment freely.

When an injured bat crashes into Raffa's life, he invents a cure from a rare crimson vine that he finds deep in the forest. His remedy saves the animal but also transforms it into something much more than an ordinary bat, with far-reaching consequences.

**Book Talk:**

Magic takes different forms. What if you could use it to change animals? What if this magic got into the wrong hands? Join Raffa as he discovers the mysteries of the Forest of Wonders and saves its magic.

**Book Trailers:**

* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rtfHU\_3QkI

### **Author on the Internet:**

* Website: https://www.lspark.com/
* Twitter: @lindasuepark
* Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/lindasuepark/

### Items to use in a library d**isplay**:

* scientific glass beakers
* mortar and pestle
* herbs, plants

**Book Club Discussion Questions/Topics:**

* Have you ever written, created or cooked something and had it turn our completely wrong?
* Garith makes a big sacrifice for his friend, have you ever given anything up for a friend?
* What are the possible themes in this book?

**First Line of the Book:**

* “Raffa hesitated at the head of the steep stairs, a lantern in his hand. There was nothing wrong with going into the cellar, he told himself firmly.”

**Non-Fiction Companion Title(s):**

* [*Mix it up! : solution or mixture? (My Science Library: Matter)*](http://www.titlewave.com/search?active_filter=&active_tab=books&card1.x=1&duplicates_view=&page=1&search_within_type=&search_within_view=&within_search=1&SID=6aebed216804f975c39b82138adf9de6) by Maurer, Tracy
* [*Alchemy and chemistry (Is It Science?)*](http://www.titlewave.com/search?active_filter=&active_tab=allTitles&card6.x=1&duplicates_view=&page=1&search_within_type=&search_within_view=&within_search=1&SID=6aebed216804f975c39b82138adf9de6) by [Stefoff, Rebecca](http://www.titlewave.com/search?author_search=Stefoff%2C+Rebecca&SID=6aebed216804f975c39b82138adf9de6)

**What to Read Next:**

* *The Apothecary* by Maile Maloy
* [*Firewing*](http://www.titlewave.com/search?active_filter=&active_tab=books&card1.x=1&duplicates_view=&page=1&search_within_type=&search_within_view=&within_search=1&SID=6aebed216804f975c39b82138adf9de6) by Kenneth Oppel

Other Books by this Author:

* *A Single Shard*
* *A Long Walk to Water*

**Additional Resources**

* Chamber or Renaissance Music
* Art/craft activity: Draw a magically transformed animal
* Interview with the author: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yMdYzeSolmw
* Lesson ideas: Mixture vs. Solutions

<https://www.teachengineering.org/lessons/view/cub_mix_lesson3>

* <https://www.themailbox.com/storage/microsites/images/2016/harpercollins2016-wing.pdf>

**Name that Book:**

* “No one would ever call Garith a baby: he had grown so tall in the past year. Then again, it was true that no one would call him a genius, either.” p. 7 HB
* “Some people are not fully aware of the true nature of our work. They seek botanica to satisfy their hearts’ desires. Great wealth, love, power--things no infusion or past can produce. But the truth might as well not exist to those who don’t believe it.” p. 17-18 HB
* “He often felt this when working with botanicals. It had nothing to do with his body. It was hard to describe -a silent but harmonious hum in his brain, not nearly as definite or dramatic as when he saw lovely colors or heard music.” p. 62 HB
* “Knowledge without wisdom is worse than dangerous.” p. 86 HB