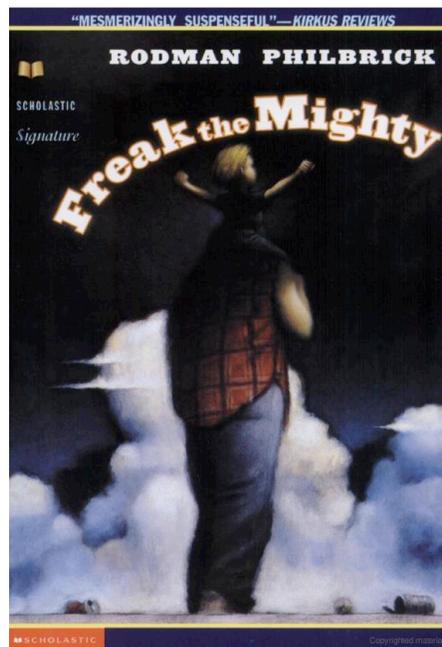


# Freak the Mighty

## Study Guide

# \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

---





## Chapter One: Introducing the novel and characters

**Character analysis:** Complete one character trait chart for each character. Be sure to use characteristics and not plot examples. Words like kind, caring, smart, funny etc. and then give examples of why you are putting them down. This example of Grim (Grandpa) is done for you.

### Thinking:

Grim is a considerate man. He provides for his family and is always looking out for Max, making sure he is safe. We know this because he fights hard for Max to be protected from his father when his father is let out of prison. He thinks ahead and gets a restraining order against him so that he cannot come within 100 feet of Max. Also, you can tell that he cares when he makes Max coffee with the good china and treats him like an adult.

### Says:

-He knew that when he saw the two sets of footprints that it was Killer Kane.  
-That Max is "not right"  
-That Killer Kane won't harm his family anymore  
-Tells fibs about his childhood to be humorous  
-Compliments Gwen on her pie

### Feeling:

Deep down Grim is very sensitive. He is kind, caring, loving, and a "softy." We know this because he cares so deeply about Max when he goes missing. You can see how worried he gets right away, when he buys a gun even when he knows guns are bad. You can also see this when he looks at Freak and the fair Gwen of Air and smiles.

### Appearance:

Grim is a simply dressed man, he is older, and he has obviously been through a lot in his life and is a hard worker. We know he is worn out a little and has had hard times because he has sad wrinkles on his face and he has coped with the death of his only daughter.

### Actions:

Grim's actions "speak louder than his words." Even though he doesn't talk a lot, he does things that show what kind of character he is. Some examples are:

1. He buys a gun
2. He tells Max that he has to be gentle with Freak
3. He eats many slices of Gwen's pie
4. He buys a gun to protect his family
5. He lets Max drink coffee

Now it's your turn! As you read the book, fill out a character map for each of the main characters. Be sure to be specific and use words that describe the character. (Use more lines if you need to!)

# Max—the Mighty

**Thinking:**

---

---

---

---

**Says:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Feeling:**

---

---

---

---

**Appearance:**

---

---

---

---

**Actions:**

---

---

---

---

Now it's your turn! As you read the book, fill out a character map for each of the main characters. Be sure to be specific and use words that describe the character. (Use more lines if you need to!)

# Kevin- Freak

**Thinking:**

---

---

---

---

**Says:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Feeling:**

---

---

---

---

**Appearance:**

---

---

---

---

**Actions:**

---

---

---

---

## Chapter 1 Comprehension Questions

Fill in the blank:

1. Max became known as “Kicker” and “Mad Max” because he was always beating people up as they tried to throw \_\_\_\_\_ on him, as if it were medication that he needed.
2. Max is also known as \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Kevin is also known as \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Kevin likes mechanical things like \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Kevin is physically \_\_\_\_\_, and smaller than the other children and has braces and crutches to help him walk.
6. Kevin’s mom is called the “Fair \_\_\_\_\_.” Which is a name based on the legend of King Arthur.

## Chapter 2 Comprehension Questions

True or False, label it T or F and *then correct the mistake*:

7. Max lives in the basement of his grandparents’ house and calls it his down under. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Max calls his grandfather Grimace and his grandmother Grammy. \_\_\_\_\_
9. When Max first sees Kevin he is yelling at the moving men and telling them to be careful with his real life robot that is packed in a box. \_\_\_\_\_
10. When Kevin first speaks to Max he calls him an “earthling”. \_\_\_\_\_
11. Based on the look that Kevin gives Max when he “pretends to shoot him with his crutch,” Max thinks that Kevin genuinely hates him. \_\_\_\_\_

## Chapter 3 Prediction Journal

In a well written, JUICY, paragraph explain what you think will happen between Max and Kevin. Will they be friends or enemies? Why do you think Kevin has crutches and metal attached to his body?

## Chapter Four Comprehension Questions

**Short Answer: In complete sentences, answer each question in neat handwriting.**

1. What is the Fair Gwen of Air's real name?
2. Why does Kevin give her this nickname instead of just calling her Guinevere?
3. Kevin gets very excited to share the story of King Arthur with Max. Why do you think he likes this story so much?
4. Aside from kings and knights, we find out that Kevin has another important hobby or interest. What is it?

## Chapter Five Comprehension Questions

**Choose the best answer from the multiple choice**

1. Why did The Fair Gwen of Air get scared that he was hanging out with Max in his "down under" bedroom?
  - a. She grew up with Max's mom and knows that his father is in jail and dangerous. Gwen thinks that Max will be too.
  - b. Kevin isn't allowed outdoors because he isn't healthy enough to go.
  - c. Kevin needs to take naps every two hours.
2. Where does Max go when he "goes inside his head?"
  - a. down under
  - b. under his bed
  - c. in the back yard to shoot hoops
3. Why did Gwen apologize to Max and Gram?
  - a. She didn't realize that they were becoming friends.
  - b. She felt bad that he was so big.
  - c. She burped out loud.
4. Why does Max cry when he gets home from eating dinner with Kevin and Gwen?
  - a. His throat hurts from choking on hot dog.
  - b. Gwen says he can't hang out with Kevin anymore because he is too stupid.
  - c. He is happy.

## Chapter Six Prediction

**What do you think happened to Max's father? Everyone is scared of him and talk about him behind Max's back. Max says that they talk about it like it should be a big secret when really everyone knows.**

**Chapter Six Comprehension Questions**

**True or False: Write a T or F on the line and then fix the mistake.**

- 1. Grim drinks beer a lot. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Max is allowed to go to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks himself. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Tony D’s nickname is Blazer. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Tony D is a nice guy. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Kevin knows a lot about the fireworks. \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter Seven Comprehension Questions**

- 1. Max and Kevin fight Tony D. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Max and Kevin ditch Tony D. by wading into a pond. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Max and Kevin become Freak the Mighty when they beat Tony D. by outsmarting him. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. One of the police officers says, “Hey, isn’t that Kenny Kane’s boy? Must be Old Killer Kane, is he still inside?” \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Kevin says in response, “We are Freak the Mighty, that’s who we are. We’re nine feet tall, in case you haven’t noticed.” \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter Seven- Picture it!**

**Draw a colorful representation of what happened to Freak the Mighty in Chapter Seven.**

## Chapter Eight Comprehension Questions

Answer these questions in full sentences to the best of your ability. They are all opinion questions.

1. When Grim gives Max coffee after he brought home by the police, why do you think Max makes such a big deal out of being allowed to have it? What does it mean for their relationship that Grim calls Max son for once?

2. Do you think that Gram's advice to run away from Tony D. is good advice? Why?

### 3. **Make a connection:**

Who else do you know that is similar to Tony D. and why/how are they similar? (Think real life, books, TV, stories, movies, celebrities etc.)

4. Why do you think Freak likes to go on "adventures" so much? Why is it so important to him to begin a new adventure everyday so early?

5. What does it mean to have "ants in your pants"? (p.45)

6. Do you think that Freak thinks that Max is dumb when he doesn't know how to use a dictionary? (p.46-47)

7. When Freak gives up on the definition with Max he says, "I don't know why I bother. Dinosaurs had brains the size of peanuts and they ruled the earth for a hundred million years." Do you think this was an insult or a compliment to Max? Why?

Chapter 8 and 9 Notes: The Legend of King Arthur

What do you already know about the story of King Arthur?

Now it's your turn! Grab a computer and do a general search for your character. Then present the legend to the class to share your info.

King Arthur, Sir Gawain the Green Knight or Guinevere

**Notes:**

Who:

What:

When:

Where:

Why:

**How does the story go:**

King Arthur	Gawain the Green Knight	Guinevere

## Chapter 9 Quotation Identification

Pick the person who best matches the quote being said.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
“You think you’re just walking down this ordinary sidewalk and really you’re crossing this dangerous bridge, the kind made of vines that hangs high up in the air over a deep canyon, and when Freak makes it up it seems so real, you’re afraid to look down or you’ll get dizzy and fall off the sidewalk.” (p.48)
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
“Now lift your up your hoof—I mean your foot...” (p.48)
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
“‘That’s the castle of Avarice’,” and, ‘Yonder lies the Bloated Moat.’” (p.49)
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
“‘Saliva is like blood without the red,’” he says. (p.51)
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
“‘I will enter the lab and become the first bionically improved human.’” (p.51)
6. \_\_\_\_\_  
“‘Sure it will hurt. But so what? Pain is just a state of mind. You can think your way out of anything, even pain.’” (p.53)

## Chapter 9 Opinion Journal

When Freak says that pain is just a state of mind, something that people think of and not really feel, do you agree with that? Why/not? Do you think that the mind is so powerful that people can feel less pain if they really want it to be so? Explain.

## Chapter 10 Comprehension Questions

Fill in the blank the most appropriate answer for each statement.

1. Max says that Grim is called Grim because he acts \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Freak jokingly tells Max that he came down to the down under by \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Freak's new quest is a \_\_\_\_\_ hunt.
4. The boys make a plan to sneak \_\_\_\_\_ to fish something out of a storm drain.
5. Freak has a watch that can tell you what time it is in \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Max doesn't sleep at night because he's feeling \_\_\_\_\_ about the quest.
7. What are two questions that Max asks himself when he's trying to fall asleep?
  
8. Freak brings Max \_\_\_\_\_'s blouse to wear because he doesn't have anything black to wear.
9. Freak wears a \_\_\_\_\_ costume instead.
10. Look up the word "fealty" that Freak makes Max pledge to on the quest.  
Definition:
  
11. Max says that it smells like something died down the drain and that are probably \_\_\_\_\_ or worse down there.
12. Freak knew the treasure was there because he saw \_\_\_\_\_'s gang throw it there the day before.
13. The purse belongs to a woman named \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Max says that they find out the next that Loretta Lee is not a damsel in distress but a damsel who \_\_\_\_\_.

## Chapter 11 Prediction

What kind of distress do you think Loretta Lee, the owner of the grotty purse and damsel who causes distress, will cause for Freak the Mighty? What are the possibilities of what can happen when they try to return her purse? List them in bullet points here:

### Chapter 11 Comprehension Questions

True or false, write T or F on the line next to the statement and then fix the line if it is False.

1. The boys travel to a place called the New Tenements that is on the other side of the millpond. \_\_\_\_\_
2. People now call it the New Testaments. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Gram doesn't mind if Max goes to the New Testaments. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Freak knows they will get a reward of five dollars if they go there. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Max says that it won't happen because everyone in those apartments are poor. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Max says he likes to carry Freak on his shoulders because it makes him feel like he has a really smart brain on his shoulders, helping him think. \_\_\_\_\_
7. The New Testaments are nice mansions. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Freak wants to back out but Max says they might as well knock on the door because they are right in front of the apartment anyway. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Loretta Lee is young and beautiful. \_\_\_\_\_
10. She lives with a man named Iggy Pop. \_\_\_\_\_
11. They both make fun of Freak the Mighty. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Iggy is in charge of a motorcycle gang named the Panhandlers. \_\_\_\_\_
13. Loretta bosses Iggy around. \_\_\_\_\_
14. Loretta and Iggy know Max's father. \_\_\_\_\_
15. In this chapter we find out that Max's father is in jail, or the "yard" as Loretta and Iggy call it, and that his nickname is "Killer Kane". \_\_\_\_\_
16. Loretta calls Freak's father a magician because he "disappeared" after Freak was born. \_\_\_\_\_

## Chapter 12 Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice-pick the best answer for each question

1. After leaving Loretta's place Max and Freak have a chat about what:
  - a. Freak admits to Max that his father left Gwen when he was born because "he made his choice" and she made her's.
  - b. Freak says "Good riddance to bad rubbings".
  - c. Going swimming.
  
2. At the end of the summer Max has anxiety about:
  - a. Iggy coming after him.
  - b. His father coming after him.
  - c. Going back to school.
  
3. Max hates school because:
  - a. he thinks he is dumb.
  - b. he has to leave Freak at home.
  - c. none of his clothes fit.
  
4. Max grows so fast:
  - a. Grim laughs about it.
  - b. When they go to buy sneakers he has to buy size 15.
  - c. When Gram buys him a few outfits to start the year with Grim comments that they will only last him "a week".
  
5. Freak made Gwen go into school and demand that:
  - a. He gets to go to special gym class.
  - b. Max gets to be moved into all of his classes to "help him get around the school".
  - c. School lunches be improved.
  
6. Kevin stands on his desk in English class to explain:
  - a. why he doesn't want to just be called Kevin.
  - b. why he is so small.
  - c. why he rides on Max's shoulders.
  
7. When Freak makes Max ride him around the room he ends up having everyone in the class:
  - a. hate him
  - b. make fun of him
  - c. chant, "Freak the Mighty, Freak the Mighty"
  
8. When Freak the Mighty is sent to the principal's office for the first time:
  - a. They get detention
  - b. Freak talks their way out of it
  - c. She calls home to their parents

9-10 Draw a colorful sketch of Mrs. Addison, the principal. Show how the personality of how her character is.

### **Chapter 12 Reflection Journal**

#### **Make a connection between yourself and the book**

If you were Max *how would you feel* about the rhyme that students have made up about his father and his life?

It goes like this: “Killer Kane, Killer Kane, Had a Kid who Got No Brain”

Do you ever feel like people make fun of you in school? How and why?

### **Chapter 13 Comprehension Questions**

Answer these opinion questions in full sentences, explaining yourself thoroughly.

1. Max let's Freak answer all of the questions in class. He has a tactic that he uses to get the teacher to stop asking him questions, he sits and stares her down until she gives in and asks someone else. Why do you think he does this? Is this a good idea or a bad idea? Why?
2. What do you think about Freak's advice to Max about reading? (He says that reading is just voices on paper.)
3. Do you ever have anger like Max does in the principal's office? Explain your answer.
4. How do you think you would be feeling if you were Max and Freak was choking in front of you, and then the ambulance came?

### **Chapter 14 Prediction**

Do you think that Freak will be ok when he goes to the hospital, why/not?

## **Chapter 14 Summary**

**In your own words describe what happens in this chapter:**

## **Chapter 15 Summaries**

1. Describe the Christmas dinner that Max's family had with Gwen and Kevin:
2. Describe the Christmas that Grim claims to have had when he was little:
3. Why does Max think that Freak's present is the best he's ever had?
4. What happens at the end of this chapter to ruin Max's Christmas?



**Chapter 18 and 19 Comprehension Questions**  
**Answer each question in a complete sentence.**

1. Who came with the cops to alert them of where Max might be?
2. Where does Killer Kane take Max after he gets scared that the cops might be around?
3. What does his father do to make sure that Max can't draw any attention to them?
4. Who comes downstairs with a flashlight to help him?
5. What does she try to do?
6. What stops her from helping him?

**Chapter 20 Comprehension Questions**  
**Fill in the blanks with an appropriate response.**

1. At the beginning of chapter we find out that Max witnessed his father \_\_\_\_\_ his mother when he was little.
2. He is now doing the same thing to \_\_\_\_\_ Lee.
3. When Max shouts at him his father starts to \_\_\_\_\_ him too.
4. Max is able to describe what his father was \_\_\_\_\_ the night that he killed his mom.
5. A \_\_\_\_\_ breaks and suddenly Freak appears.
6. Freak is holding a \_\_\_\_\_ gun.
7. Killer Kane says, ““This is your partner in crime? I guess maybe you are a \_\_\_\_\_ after all.””
8. Freak was smart and tricked Killer Kane into thinking that his gun was filled with \_\_\_\_\_ but it was really filled with \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Loretta was actually still \_\_\_\_\_ and they take her to the hospital.
10. The chapter ends with Freak screaming, ““ \_\_\_\_\_ ””

## Chapter 21 Comprehension Questions

Match the quote or fact up to the most appropriate character

1. \_\_\_\_\_ “I can’t tell you what it felt like, coming up out of and seeing that double track of footprints in the snow. I knew it was him, I just knew in my heart.” (p.135)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ The papers now call her Heroic Biker Babe. (p.136)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ He now sleeps on the sofa upstairs. (p.136)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ “Put me up for adoption. I want to go live with the Waltons” (p. 137)
5. \_\_\_\_\_ She calls Freak the Mighty the “dynamic duo” now. (p. 138)
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Grim calls him an “accident of nature.” (p. 139)
7. \_\_\_\_\_ He says that it’s the growing up that worries him.

## Chapter 22 Comprehension Questions

Describe what you think each of these quotes or new facts mean.

1. “Remembering is just an invention of the mind” (p. 141)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Gwen gets Freak a computer so that he can eventually attend school from home by watching it on the video screen. Why would he have to stay home and learn?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. “I should have asked for earplugs,’ he says, ‘you better check the glassware for cracks.’” (p. 145)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. “Maxwell never breaks a dish,’ Gram is saying, ‘He’s very sure-handed for someone so large.’” (p. 145)

**Chapter 23 Comprehension Questions**

**Answer in complete sentences.**

1. What is the ICU part of the hospital? (you may need to ask someone for help with that question)
2. What does it mean that Freak is in the ICU unit?
3. Why does Max get scared when he goes into Freak’s hospital room for the first time?
4. Describe Dr. Spivak:
5. What does Freak have in his neck and what is it called?
6. What does Freak say is going to happen that very night?
7. Freak gives Max an empty book. What does he want him to do with it?

**Chapter 24 and 25 Comprehension Questions**

**Write T or F on the line next to the fact. If the answer is False, correct the part that is wrong.**

1. Max knows he’s not supposed to go to the hospital, so he doesn’t. \_\_\_\_\_
2. One of the nurses says to call Dr. Spivak because Kevin *was* her patient. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Max sees that some of the nurses have been crying so he “goes nuts.” \_\_\_\_\_
4. Kevin freaks out and starts kicking things as he runs down the hall. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Cops come and catch Max and calm him down. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Max yells at Dr. Spivak because he feels she lied to Freak. \_\_\_\_\_

7. Max tells her what Freak said was going to happen with the bionic body. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Dr. Spivak says that she doesn't think it was a lie, but that Freak really hoped for his fantasy to come true. \_\_\_\_\_
9. She says that Freak died of having a seizure. \_\_\_\_\_
10. All of the cops wanted to arrest Max for busting up the hospital. \_\_\_\_\_
11. Max went to the funeral and spoke a prayer aloud. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Max says he felt like a basketball with the air let out. \_\_\_\_\_
13. Grim yells at Max and says that he should "suck it up because some people never have a friend as good as Freak in their whole lives." \_\_\_\_\_
14. Tony D. came up to Max at school and made fun of Freak. \_\_\_\_\_
15. Loretta tells Max that Gwen has a boyfriend in California and that, "Nothing is a drag, kid. Think about it." \_\_\_\_\_
16. Max writes a book called *Freak the Mighty* about the unvanquished truth. \_\_\_\_\_
17. But he says that he'll never read any books or go back to school again. \_\_\_\_\_

**Reading Freak's Dictionary**

**Look up the definitions that Freak gives for these words:**

Armor \_\_\_\_\_

Book \_\_\_\_\_

Critters \_\_\_\_\_

Dictionary \_\_\_\_\_

Down Under \_\_\_\_\_

Food \_\_\_\_\_

Foosle \_\_\_\_\_

Grim \_\_\_\_\_

Human \_\_\_\_\_

Jillion \_\_\_\_\_

Kevin \_\_\_\_\_

Liftoff \_\_\_\_\_

Massives \_\_\_\_\_

Max \_\_\_\_\_

Midgets \_\_\_\_\_

Nicotine \_\_\_\_\_

Obstinate \_\_\_\_\_

Quest \_\_\_\_\_

Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Round Table \_\_\_\_\_

Spastic \_\_\_\_\_

Television \_\_\_\_\_

Unicorn \_\_\_\_\_

Vamoose \_\_\_\_\_

Writing \_\_\_\_\_

Yonder \_\_\_\_\_

Zed \_\_\_\_\_

Zit \_\_\_\_\_

Zoo \_\_\_\_\_

Now create your own word and definition to add to Freak's dictionary.