abolitionist	gravely	nudge	spiffy
as if on cue	gritting my teeth	on the cusp	spritz myself
blurt out	groggily	ovation	squint
bounty hunter	hog	petrified	stampede
cootie	holler	pry	taciturn
crack up	hopscotch	rascal	trache tube
cringe	huddle	reimburse	tuck
dork	huffy	repelled up	understudy
drizzle	ice one out	ruminate	unison
duffle bag	knickers	scoot over	varsity
euphoric	last minute jitters	scrunch something up	verbosity
flub	let on	second to last	whine
ginormous	lurch	snuck out	whoop
goof off	manic	snuggle	yank
	mayhem		

cups her hands over a ladybug

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cups her hands over a ladybug

Discussion Questions

1. What is the meaning of ‘a varsity jock’ and ‘I need a late pass’?
2. Why doesn't Justin use capital letters
3. Very high up on the totem pole
4. What did Mr. Tushman focus on when he spoke to the audience?
5. What is the prize that Auggie won? In what way was the award meaningful to Auggie?
6. When do you feel like you are floating?
7. Who said “The universe was not kind to Auggie Pullman”?
8. What was the one thing that helped Auggie overcome his situation and successfully graduate fifth grade?
9. Have you had a friendship that fell apart or drifted away, but eventually reconciled? (like Via and MIranda)
10. Have you experienced a bittersweet moment like Miranda? What made you feel that way?
11. Why was there no one to see Miranda at the play? Have you ever had a situation like that?
12. How would you react to Via after talking to Miranda if you were Justin?

Which of these quotes were especially meaningful to you? Why?

The universe makes it all even out in the end. The universe takes care of all its birds

Funny how sometimes you worry a lot about something and it turns out to be nothing.

I loved the way bits of fire dust would float up and disappear the night air. like someone sprinkled salt on a shiny black table.

Thank you Auggie
For what
For everything you’ve given us, she said. For coming into our lives. For being you.

Her smile kind of hugged me

The laughter I had inside just poured out of me

When given the choice between being right and kind, be kind

But after she died, I held on to that secret and let it cover me like a blanket

Be kinder than is necessary

Do people look the same why when they get to heaven?

I’ve kind of earned the right to think of him as my brother

So I give her my wing to hide under

So doesn’t that make the universe a giant lottery then? You purchase a ticket when you’re born and it’s all just random whether you get a good tick or a bad ticket. It’s all just luck.