Virtual Hooked on Books
Percy Jackson & the Lightning Thief Ch. 18 – 22
Discussion Questions

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1. Percy is told that the River Styx, which you must cross in order to get to the Underworld is polluted with lost hopes, dreams and wishes. What message do you Rick Riordan trying to convey?

2. There’s lots of anticipation building throughout the book surrounding Percy’s meeting with Hades. Did Hades behave the way you were expecting? In what ways was Hades the same or different from what you had expected?

3. What conclusions does Percy suddenly make when he discovers that the missing Lightning Bolt in in his backpack?

4. It looks like Ares is deliberately trying to stir up war amongst the gods. Why would he do this?

5. Why does Percy insist on going alone to Mt. Olympus and returning the Lightning Bolt to Zeus himself? Why did he insist that Annabeth and Grover return to Camp Half Blood?

6. How did Percy feel when he finally meets his father? Did anything about their meeting surprise you?

7. Hades returns Percy’s mother back to her regular life as a thank you for the return of the Helm of Darkness. Percy is told even the Lord of Death “pays his debts”. What does it mean to “pay your debts”?