

Treasure Hunt: *Remarkably Bright Creatures*

Style: Mixed (detail-hunt + narrative riddle)

Spoiler Level: S1 (Safe for people still reading)

Instructions to participants:

Use the clues below to search the book for characters, objects, lines, and moments. Some answers will be a **person**, some a **place**, some a **specific detail** you must locate. You must read carefully! Numbered answers must be emailed to onebookoneputnam@gmail.com with "answers" in the subject line. All answers must be received by 5:00 PM on Thursday, February 26, 2026 in order to be eligible to win a prize. Three winners will be selected in a drawing from all those who have submitted the most correct answers. The winners will receive gift cards to local eateries. All decisions of the One Book One Putnam Committee are final.

The 20 Treasure Hunt Questions

1. "Night Watcher"

Which character spends late hours working alone, when most of the town is asleep?

2. Salt, Water, and Glass

Name the *location* where two unlikely lives first cross paths regularly.

3. The Quiet Finder

A lost item becomes emotionally meaningful early in the story. What is it?

4. Eight-Armed Observer

What creature notices more than the humans realize, and how many hearts does its species have?

5. The Town's Edge

Name the *small Washington town* where the story is set.

6. Shelf of Secrets

A character collects or keeps items that hint at memories. What is one of the items?

7. A Habit of Order

What nightly routine or cleaning habit helps one character manage their grief?

8. The Locked-Away Room

A room in Tova's house kept mostly untouched." What room is it?

9. Coffee, Comfort, or Coping

“A daily warm drink (often coffee) that becomes a grounding routine” What beverage is it?

10. Tides and Time

What natural cycle plays an important symbolic role in the story’s rhythm and mood?

11. A Son, a Shadow, a Secret

Name the character who feels incomplete or “unanchored” because of unanswered family questions.

12. Unexpected Friendships

Which two characters form a gentle, unlikely bond built on observation and consistency?

13. Work That Wears You Down

Name a job from the novel that is repetitive, tiring, or thankless, yet deeply humanizing.

14. Clue in the Kitchen

Name one food or dish that reflects a character’s personality, background, or emotional state.

15. Watcher of Humans

A character believes humans are “remarkably bright, and remarkably stupid.” Who thinks this?

16. A Town that Remembers

Name the local business, landmark, or gathering place that gives the book its small-town feel.

17. Water as Witness

What body of water is connected to the fears, losses, or history of the story?

18. Bridge Between Generations

What object, story, or hobby connects an older character with a younger one?

19. When the Lights Are Low

What task or job must be done after dark that reveals truths people hide in daylight?

20. The Question Beneath the Question (Multiple answers are possible)

Many characters are searching for something (literal or emotional). Choose *one character* and name what they are searching for.