

Bring this to the quiz with you.

Name _____



FOX - genre = fantasy

By Margaret Wild

1 Through the charred forest, over hot ash, runs Dog, with a bird
2 clamped in his big, gentle mouth. He takes her to his cave above the
3 river and there he tries to tend her burnt wing; but Magpie does not
4 want his help. - why? fix, mend

5 "I will never again be able to fly," she whispers.

↳ she = Magpie

6 "I know," says Dog. He is silent for a moment, then he says, "I am blind in one eye, but life is
7 still good." - he's being positive - like we learned in Roundup today

8 "An eye is nothing!" says Magpie. "How would you feel if you couldn't run?"

↳ she feels that her injury is worse than his.

9 Dog does not answer. Magpie drags her body into the shadow of the rocks, until she feels

10 herself melting into blackness. - very sad

- sadness because of loss - convinces

11 Days, perhaps a week later, she wakes with a rush of grief. Dog is waiting, He persuades her to
go with him to the riverbank. She doesn't want help but Dog keeps trying.

12 "Hop on my back," he says. "Look into the water and tell me what you see."

a reflection is in the water

13 Sighing, Magpie does as he asks. Reflected in the water are clouds and sky and trees - and
14 something else. "I see a strange new creature!" she says. ? what does she see? = Q (The two of them as one!)

15 "That is us," says Dog. "Now hold on tight!"

- bushes. (forest)

16 With Magpie clinging to his back, he races through the scrub, past the Stringybark, past the
17 clumps of yellow box trees, and into blueness. He runs so quickly, it is almost as if he were flying.

18 Magpie feels the wind streaming through her feathers, and she rejoices. "Fly, Dog, fly! I will be
19 your missing eye, and you will be my wings." They are helping each other! so happy now!

20 And so Dog runs, with Magpie on his back, every day, through summer, through winter. After
21 the rains, when saplings are springing up everywhere, a fox comes into the bush; Fox with his haunted
22 eyes and rich red coat. He flickers through the trees like a tongue of fire, and Magpie trembles. scary
↳ she is scared

23 But Dog says, "Welcome. We can offer you food and shelter."

24 "Thank you," says Fox. "I saw you running this morning. You looked extraordinary." awesome

25 Dog beams but Magpie shrinks away. She can feel Fox staring at her burnt wing.

is happy

↓
still not sure about Fox.

sweet smelling air - flowers are in bloom

27 In the evenings, when the air is creamy with blossom, Dog and Magpie relax at the mouth of
28 the cave, enjoying each other's company. Now and again Fox joins in the conversation, but Magpie
29 can feel him watching, always watching her. And at night his smell seems to fill the cave - a smell of
30 rage and envy and loneliness.

Magpie is suspicious.
jealous of Dog and Magpie

31 Magpie tries to warn Dog about Fox. "He belongs nowhere," she says. "He loves no one."

32 But Dog says, "He's all right. Let him be." Dog is trusting. Magpie is warning Dog.

33 That night, when Dog is asleep, Fox whispers to Magpie, "I can run faster than the wind. Leave

34 Dog and come with me." Fox is tempting Magpie

35 Magpie says, "I will never leave Dog. I am his missing eye and he is my wing." Magpie says no.

36 Fox says no more that night, but the next day when Dog is at the river, he whispers to Magpie,

37 "Do you remember what it is like to fly? Truly fly?" Fox tempts Magpie again.

38 Again Magpie says, "I will never leave Dog. I am his missing eye and he is my wings." Magpie says no.

39 But later that day, as Dog runs through the scrub with Magpie on his back, she thinks, "This is

40 nothing like flying. Nothing!" Magpie starts to think maybe Fox would be better.

41 And when at dawn Fox whispers to her for the third time, she whispers back, "I am ready."

42 While Dog sleeps, Magpie and Fox streak past coolibah trees, rip through long grass, pelt over
+ trees

43 rocks. Fox runs so fast that his feet scarcely touch the ground and Magpie exults, "At last I am flying.

44 Really flying!" she gives in a happy way

45 Fox scorches through the woodlands, through dusty plains, through salt pans, and out into the

46 hot red desert. Fox runs through the area faster than Dog ever could

47 He stops, scarcely panting. There is silence between them. Neither moves, neither speaks.

48 Then Fox shakes Magpie off his back as he would a flea, and pads away. why did the author say like a flea? Fleas are a nuisance

49 He turns and looks at Magpie, and he says, "Now you and Dog will know what it is like to be
50 truly alone." BETRAYAL! Dog wants Magpie to be alone, just like Fox was. He was jealous.

51 Then he is gone. In the stillness, Magpie hears a far away scream. She cannot tell if it is a

52 scream of triumph or despair. - who did the screaming? Fox or Dog? victory sadness.

53 Magpie huddles, a scruff of feathers adrift in heat. She can feel herself burning into

54 nothingness. It would be so easy just to die here in the desert. she will die if she stays out in the desert.

55 But then she thinks of Dog waking to find her gone. - she has hope that Dog will still be there for her.

56 Slowly, jiggety-hop, she begins the long journey home.

She walks home slowly.