Discussion Questions

*Hungry Tide* by Amitav Ghosh

**Source: Madison Public Library**

1. Before reading *The Hungry Tide* were you familiar with the Sundarbans? With freshwater dolphins? Does Ghosh bring those alive to you such that you can picture them in your mind?

2. In an interview with ReadersVoice.com [in your discussion guide] Ghosh says “One of the major characters in the book, actually, is the landscape in which it’s set.” Is he speaking exclusively of the tide action effects on the land? Something more? Different?

3. Did you as a reader become as enchanted with the dolphins as Piya is? Were you pleased she found a partner in Fokir via a shared love of the dolphins? How did you think their relationship would go?

4. What about the tigers? Were you aware there was a place in the world where tigers were still such a threat to human life?

5. By including an American-born Indian woman who feels often out-of-place, is Ghosh helping the reader? Does this require him to explain things that might otherwise go unmentioned?

6. What was your reaction to the story Kanai discovers about Nirmal and his past? Could you put yourself in Lusibari at that time? Were you surprised at the difference in perspectives between Nirmal and his wife Nilima about their shared past?

7. Did the events of the storm at the very end of the book take you by surprise? How did you feel about the story’s resolution? Did you want things to end differently for Fokir? What about his relationships with his wife Moyna and with Piya? Can you imagine alternate endings?