

## **The Tree That Would Not Die**

The book we are reading today is based on a true story that happened in Austin. The book also includes a little history of Texas and Austin. The main character in the book is a tree and the story is told from the point of view of the tree.

Introduce yourself. Tell us where you are from and where you are now. Tell your group if there is a tree that is important where you live or where you are from.

Discussion questions:

What do you think about the author's decision to have the tree tell the story? Does it make the story more interesting?

The author includes both facts and legends about the tree. Did you notice how the author includes the legendary parts of the story without saying they are facts?

Do you know of a time when people donated money, said prayers, wrote letters and so on to support something (not human) that was sick or dying?

Many people made small donations to help save the tree, but at least one person donated a very large sum of money to save the tree. Some people thought it would have been better if this person gave money to help low-income people in Austin instead of an old tree. What do you think?

The story of the tree was reported across the United States and around the world. Did you know about this tree before reading the book?

Have you seen Treaty Oak in Austin?