



# Colorado Book Club Resource

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR THE ELEPHANT VANISHES BY HARUKI MURAKAMI

1. What was the relevance of the woman in “The Elephant Vanishes”–(Note: this is a GREAT question and we didn’t get to it in class!)
2. There’s a large contrast between the behavior of the 2 elephants. What does each represent?
3. What does the elephant represent to the narrator (in “The Elephant Vanishes”)?
4. Why did the narrator find a connection between the disappearance of the elephant and the complete change in his life? (Note, this is a good question, because it asks us to look at a pattern in the story, and is more specific than a general question about representation.)

*Discussion questions provided by University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.*



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