The Leopard is Loose

by Stephen Harrigan

1. Reading the title, what was your first thought? Did the book meet your expectations?
2. The story is told from the point of view of a 5 year old. How does this affect events and our understanding of them?
3. Many books deal with World War II, but have you ever read one that specifically deals with the decade afterwards? Were you able to relate any parts of the book to your life?
4. The book is set in Oklahoma and is based on real life events. How would you feel if a leopard got loose in your town? Do you think the townspeople reacted appropriately?
5. What was a memorable instance from your childhood that people might ask you about today?
6. Was there anything in the story that prompted you to search for more information? Anything you’re curious about?
7. Even though the leopard is a relatively small part of the story, it allowed us to explore deeper subjects. Which interested you the most?
8. Was there a character that you related to or that reminded you of someone?