

Freak the Mighty: Significant Quotes

Quote (page #)	Who said it & to whom	Paraphrase the quote	Significant why?
I never had a brain until Freak came along and let me borrow his for a while, and that's the truth, the whole truth. (p.1)	Max is talking to the Reader.	I did not feel smart until I met Freak.	It introduces the story and Max's low self-esteem until Freak's positive influence.
"Books are like truth serum – if you don't read, you can't figure out what is real." (p.19)	Freak to Max	You are smart and know stuff with books.	Freak's attitude toward books is important because it eventually changes Max.
"Identify yourself, earthling." (p. 8)	Freak to Max	Who are you?	Get to know Freak's unusual personality.
"Not that I have any ideas. My brain is vacant, okay?" (p. 6)	Max to reader	I am dumb.	Establishing Max's low self-esteem.
"Pain is just a state of mind. You can think your way out of anything, even pain." (p. 53)	Freak to Max	Mind is more powerful than pain/body.	Freak is saying that your mind/brain is the most important.
"I never saw much of your mom after they got married. He made it... difficult for your mother to have any friends."(26)	Gwen of Air to Max	We were friends up until they got married.	Important b/c it's FORESHADOWING and let's know how controlling Max's dad was of his mom.
"Whew! That was a close encounter of the turd kind!" (31)	Freak to Max	Joke at Blade's expense	Showing Freak's intelligence – play on "Close Encounters of the THIRD Kind" - SciFi
"I'm telling tales my dear, not lies. Lies are mean things, and tales are meant to entertain." (p. 95)	Grim to Gram	Telling stories about what happened, not lying.	Lets us know Grim's personality. Max is stating to THINK about things like TRUTH.
"It's like I'm looking at an old picture of myself. You really <i>are</i> a chip off the old block, you know that?" (p. 102)	Dad to Max	Wow. You look like I used to look.	He's suggesting that they are alike in more ways than looks.
"We're Freak the Mighty, that's who we are. We're nine feet tall, in case you haven't noticed." (p. 40)	Freak to cops	We are now more powerful together!	Beginning of "Freak the Mighty" They are learning they are stronger together, and getting confidence.

“Shhh! Speak of this to no one, but at some future time as yet undetermined, I will enter that lab and become the first bionically improved human.” (p. 51)	Freak to Max	I will come here at some unknown time to become a robot.	He has this disability, so it’s important to him to hope for improvement.
“Treasure in the sewer? What kind of quest is this, huh? Is Freak completely making this up or what?” (p. 57)	Max to reader	Questioning Freak’s quest	Max asserting his intelligence.
“Good riddance to bad rubbish.” (p. 73)	Freak to Max	Glad to be rid of trash.	Freak is saying he’s better off without his dad, who left b/c of his disability. Makes Max think.
“‘I came back’, he says. ‘Like I promised.’” (p. 99)	Killer Kane to Max		He’s indicating he promised to return.
“I <i>am</i> the light and don’t you ever forget it.” (p. 118)	Killer Kane to Max	He’s the only thing to follow	Implied threat... Must obey.
“And I swear on the dictionary, if Freak ever tries to eat American chop suey again, I’ll dump it on his head or something.” (p. 87)	Max to reader	Stressed Max worrying about his friend.	Freak was just rushed away from school in an ambulance.
“The plan is, Iggy keeps him busy while I get you loose, now isn’t that a good plan?” (p. 126)	Loretta to Max	She’s untying him.	Loretta and Iggy come to help Max, which is significant because they are scared of Killer Kane.
“Because Freak has been showing me how to read the whole book and for some reason, it all makes sense, where before it was just a bunch of words I didn’t care about.” (p. 81)	Max to reader	I understand reading now because of Freak.	Significant because Max’s self-confidence is changing.
“Everybody needs something to hope for.” (p. 157)	Dr. Spivak to Max	Kevin wasn’t lying by hoping	The story about the robot body was a “tale”, not a “lie”.
“‘I saw you do it,’ I say, ‘I saw you kill my mother.’” (p. 129)	Max to Killer Kane	Max saw Killer Kane kill Max’s mom	Killer Kane has been trying to claim his innocence. Max sees him choke Loretta and it all comes back. He remembers.
“I’m not coming home, not in my present manifestation.” (p. 149)	Freak to Max	I’m not coming “like this”.	Up to interpretation – did he mean robot...or alive?

<p>“So he was lying about getting a robot body?” (p. 157)</p>	<p>Max to Dr. Spivak</p>	<p>Max is confused that there’s no surgery.</p>	<p>Max is realizing Freak was sicker than Max knew all along, and that many of Freak’s stories were how he dealt.</p>
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