Questions About Fear

In 1933, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, new president of the United States, said that the "[only thing we have to fear is fear itself](http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/5057/)." Okay, it's a little more eloquent than Piggy's "I know there isn't no fear," but the point is basically the same: the most dangerous thing on this planet is probably fear, especially fear of the unknown. (Need us to be a little more literal? The [Cold War](http://www.shmoop.com/causes-of-cold-war/) was a war of fear: each side was so afraid of the other starting nuclear war that they built up their nuclear capacity, until the entire world could have been blown away if someone's trigger finger had just jerked.) The boys inLord of the Flies might be afraid of the beast, but that fear turns out to be more dangerous than any beast could possibly be. What they don't know is that they should really be afraid of each other—and of themselves.

Questions About Fear

What is "the unknown" in Lord of the Flies? Are there any "knowns" that the boys fear—like starving, or never being rescued?

What is Simon afraid of?

What do the littluns really fear when they talk about the beast? At what point in the novel do the boys fully accept the reality of the beast, and what is the catalyst?