

## Book Club Questions for Any Book

### **General advice**

- Choose whichever questions appeal to you – you don't have to do them all!
- Make up your own questions! But don't make them feel like "homework"
- Try for "open-ended" questions that can't be answered simply with yes or no

### **General impression of the book**

- What struck you most? What did you like or dislike most?
- What was the book's greatest strength or weakness?
- Couldn't put the book down, or tried to drag yourself through it?

### **Characters**

- Which character did you like most or least? Which did you most identify with, or not?
- How believable or well-drawn are the characters? Any stereotypes or "flat" characters?
- How does the main character's point of view shape story? Would the story be different from other characters' point of view? Are there multiple points of view portrayed?

### **Plot and Structure**

- Any plot events, twists, or ending that surprised, pleased, or annoyed you?
- Any suspense or conflict that struck you?
- Any "flashbacks" or multiple time sequences?

### **Setting and Writing Style**

- How does the setting affect the story?
- If it's set or written in different time or place, how would it be different or same if it took place here and now?
- Any language that struck you - insights, descriptions, imagery?
- Is the writing style unusual in any way?
- Read us a quote that struck you

### **Theme**

- What does title mean?
- What themes does this book touch on - e.g. family dynamics, social justice (culture, race, education, class, age, gender, disability), religion/spirituality, environment, etc.
- What does this book remind you of, or relate to, in your own life?
- "Who the heck picked this book, and why?"

### **Audience, Author, and Adaptations**

- Is this book for all adult readers, or for a specific age/gender/culture? (e.g. "chick lit")
- Do you think the author is trying to convey a message or prove a point?
- Is the book autobiographical? (Hints may be in the author's bio or interviews)
- Compare to other books by this author. Did this make you want to read more by this author?
- Any movies/plays/musicals based on this book? Are they better or worse – why?