

## Leader's Guide Bonus Questions and other materials:

**Meeting outline with timing suggestions.** Assuming the meeting will be 1 hour long, here are a couple of suggestions for breaking up the meeting:

**A.)** 15/30/15 minute increments (adjusted as needed, of course). First 15 minutes can be icebreaker time, 30 minutes can be discussion time of group questions. The last 15 minutes can be enjoying snacks and wrapping up the meeting.

**B.)** 50/50 The first half is Ice Breaker and discussion time with the remaining time eating and continuing to discuss the topics that linger in the club members minds and hearts.

### Icebreakers related to the topic.

#### Pass the cookie jar

Have each guest pull a question from the jar and answer that question.

- What was the first book you remember reading/being read?
- What is your favorite book of all time?
- Which book has left the most lasting impression on you?
- Which book have you read most frequently?
- What books are on your bedside table at the moment?
- Name one book/author that you really can't stand?
- What type of books do you like reading most?
- If you were given the money to buy a book today, what book would you buy?
- Where's your favorite place to read?
- Which character in a book do you think is most like you?
- Which character in a book would you most like to be?
- Which literary character would you most like to have a 'significant relationship' with?

Taken from

[https://www.bookbrowse.com/bookclubs/advice/index.cfm/fuseaction/ice\\_breakers](https://www.bookbrowse.com/bookclubs/advice/index.cfm/fuseaction/ice_breakers)

### Related group activities:

Chloe Parker has a green thumb and flowers are found throughout "Blood Beneath the Pines."

Try a craft night and make Roses out of Jolly Ranchers Candy. The translucent hard candies can be molded into roses that look more like blown glass rather than inexpensive candies. You need between six and nine "petals" and two "leaves" for each rose.

**Stuff you'll need:**

Bamboo skewers, one per rose

Kitchen scissors

Glass bowl

Jolly Rancher candies (**Preferable orange and green**)

Food safe rubber gloves



The instructions can be found on my Pinterest site...

[www.pinterest.com/801d2919710592ce90ce5ce4292d8d](http://www.pinterest.com/801d2919710592ce90ce5ce4292d8d)

\*\*\* There are other craft ideas for making roses on my Pinterest page. \*\*\*

**Food ideas for the snack/meal. Recipes for meals served in the story.**

Chloe and Sam enjoy a nice meal at a Southern BBQ place.

Here is one recipe for Southern BBQ pulled pork...

<https://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/trisha-yearwood/slow-cooker-georgia-pulled-pork-barbeque-recipe-2078315>

Also, see recipe on my Pinterest account

[www.pinterest.com/801d2919710592ce90ce5ce4292d8d](http://www.pinterest.com/801d2919710592ce90ce5ce4292d8d)

**Introduction questions or BONUS Questions just for Group Leader:**

- Did you enjoy the book? Why or why not?
- What were your expectations for this book? Did the book fulfill them?
- How would you briefly describe the book to a friend?

- How would you describe the plot? Did it pull you in, or did you feel you had to force yourself to read the book?
- How realistic was the characterization?
- Would you want to meet any of the characters?
- Did you like them? Hate them?
- Who was your favorite character?
- Did the actions of the characters seem plausible? Why? Why not?
- If one (or more) of the characters made a choice that had moral implications, would you have made the same decision? Why? Why not?

### **Group Questions for meetings:**

1. "What was your initial reaction to the book? Did it hook you immediately, or take some time to get into?"
2. "Do you think the story was plot-based or character driven?"
3. "What was your favorite quote/passage?"
4. "What made the setting unique or important? Could the story have taken place anywhere?"
5. "Did you pick out any themes throughout the book?"
6. Any "If/then" Questions
7. "How did the characters change throughout the story? How did your opinion of them change?"
8. "How did the structure of the book affect the story?"
9. "Which character did you relate to the most, and what was it about them that you connected with?"
10. "How did you feel about the ending? What did you like, what did you not like, and what do you wish had been different?"
11. "Did the book change your opinion or perspective about anything? Do you feel different now than you did before you read it?"
12. "If the book were being adapted into a movie, who would you want to see play what parts?"

13. How does the setting figure in the book?
14. How would the book have been different if it had taken place in a different time or place?
15. What are some of the book's themes? How important were they?
16. How are the book's images symbolically significant? Do the images help to develop the plot or help to define characters?
17. Did the book end the way you expected?
18. At which point of the book were you most engaged?
19. How would you describe the pace of the book?
20. What three words would you use to summarize this book?
21. What, if anything, set this book apart from others you've read in a similar genre?
22. What did you think of the book's length? If it's too long, what would you cut? If too short, what would you add? Was it just right?
23. Would you recommend this book to other readers? To your close friend? Why or why not?

Questions provided by [www.bustle.com/](http://www.bustle.com/) "13 General Book Club Questions For Any Kind Of Discussion" by SADIE TROMBETTA

Lombardi, Esther. "50 General Book Club Questions for Study and Discussion." ThoughtCo, Aug. 16, 2018, [thoughtco.com/general-book-club-questions-study-discussion-738884](http://thoughtco.com/general-book-club-questions-study-discussion-738884).

## **Extras:**

**If the group subscribes to my website: <https://tammypartlow.com/> I will offer them a freebie. The Book Club Group Leader can send questions via email ([tammy@tammypartlow.com](mailto:tammy@tammypartlow.com)) and I will do my best to answer them before the club is finished reading the book. Thank you for choosing my book for your book club!**

**Tammy Partlow**