

## Discussion Questions

(Generic questions you can apply to most any book)

### 10 questions which will help generate discussion:

1. How does the title reflect the book?
2. Which character do you think is the voice of the author?
3. Is the main character likeable? Why or why not?
4. Did the author leave loose ends? What were they?
5. What do you think the author wanted the reader to get out of the book?
6. What makes a minor character memorable? Why is this character important to the story?
7. What do you think happens to the characters next? (after the last page is turned)
8. Would you recommend this book? Why or why not? If yes, what would you say about it?
9. Why was this book selected for discussion?
10. Would this book make a good movie? (cast the film)

### Further questions for discussion

1. What makes the book distinctive?
2. Is the period in which the book is set important to the theme? Why? Are the values presented dated? How?
3. Is the setting of the book important to the theme? Why? How realistic is the setting?
4. Does the theme of the book relate to the protagonist's gender? How?
5. What did the author attempt to do in the book? Was it successful?
6. What is the author's worldview?
7. Were the plot and subplots believable? Were they interesting?
8. Did the author leave loose ends? What were they?
9. How understandable were the motivations of the characters? What motivated the behavior of the characters?
10. How is the book structured? Flashbacks? From one point of view? Why do you think the author chose to write the book this way?
11. How does the language of the book help convey the theme?
12. Does the author rely heavily on imagery and symbolism?

### Talking about a book no one liked

Don't be alarmed if all your readers come to the discussion announcing how much they hated the book, the characters, the writing, the subject, EVERYTHING. Books no one liked often provide the best discussion. Ask the following questions to get people talking about what they didn't like about the book:

1. At what point did you decide to give up on the book and why?
2. What made you keep reading to the end?
3. Which character did you dislike the most?
4. Are any of the situations in this book realistic?
5. Does the dialogue sound natural?
6. What could the author have changed to make this a book you would have enjoyed?
7. Would this book have been better in another format? (i.e. as an audiocassette or film)