

# BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION



## KICKOFF QUESTION (PAIR SHARE OR GROUP SHARE)

Could you relate to Jude? Why or why not? Have you ever been welcomed (or not welcomed) to a new place by someone? Tell us more.

# BOOK CLUB

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



Describe Jude. What was she like at home in Syria compared to when she arrived in Ohio?



Discuss Jude's relationships with her new American friends & cousin. How does each relationship evolve or change?



What did you learn about Syria and the refugee crisis from this book? How is Jude's home experience in Syria different from what is described on the news? (Share info about Syria from resources like [this one](#).)



Read the Arabic proverbs on pg. 129 and 238. What do these mean to you? What did they mean in the story's context?



Why was Laila's family restaurant targeted? How did the community respond? How would you (or have you) responded in situations like this?



Why did Jude begin wearing a hijab? How is this transition perceived by her Syrian family vs. her American friends/family? Are there cultural traditions you have assumptions about? How might you challenge those?



What did you think about the verse writing style? How might the story have been different if it had been written in prose? As a graphic novel?



What were major themes in this book?



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# ACTIVITY IDEAS



## WHAT DOES HOME MEAN TO YOU?

Home is a major theme in this book. What does “home” mean to you? Write about (or draw a picture of) where you feel most “at home” and how that place makes you feel.

## REFUGEE WELCOME CARDS

Find a local organization that supports refugees. Ask them if they would like your group to create welcome cards that can be given to new arrivals. .Bring supplies to make cards (paper, markers, stickers, etc.) Make an example card or two to share as inspiration.

## BOOK RECOMMENDATION CARDS

Let students share what they thought about this book. Use one of these templates to create a [book recommendation card](#) with why you recommend this book. Print review cards and hang them in your class/home library. Then, log into [Bookopolis.com](http://Bookopolis.com) and add your rating/review there!