



Discover. Read. Share.

Libertie DISCUSSION GUIDE

- How do faith, religion, and ritual play into this story?
- Why do you think the author chose Libertie as the protagonist instead of her mother?
- The book chronicles three distinct stages of Libertie's life: childhood with her mother Cathy in New York, college in Ohio, and marriage to Emmanuel in Haiti. Which section resonated with you the most and why? Which resonated the least and why?
- When her mother begins treating white patients, Libertie perceives it as a betrayal. Discuss Libertie's feelings of betrayal and her struggles with rage.
- Discuss the notion of being "colorstruck." How does it manifest itself in the book? How have you seen this notion in present day?
- There is a theme of passing and colorism throughout the novel. Libertie is dark, while her mother could pass for white. Discuss the biases and microaggressions Libertie faces because of her color and how her experiences differed from her mother's.
- "You have too much faith in white folks," Emmanuel Chase said. Lucien said, "You have not enough faith in colored people." Discuss the opposing opinions of Emmanuel and Lucien.
- Libertie keeps a book with letters she writes to the lady in the river—why keep it? What did she hope would come of it?
- "Their bodies are here with us in emancipation, but their minds are not free." Discuss how this quote applies to Mr. Ben Daisy.
- Where do you think this book fits in the national conversation around racism? Does it shift your perception, or how you will respond in those conversations moving forward?
- What did you think of Libertie's relationship with Emmanuel? Was it a doomed romance from the start?
- Discuss the ending. What was your reaction to Libertie's final letters to her mother and Emmanuel? What do you think Libertie's future holds?

Eager to keep *Libertie* discussion going? Check out our exclusive Author Q&A with Kaitlyn Greenidge, plus a Meeting Planner and Recommended Next Reads, available at theclub.hoopladigital.com.

