

The Fault in Our Stars - YA Book Club



Questions to Discuss/Think About:

- a. The support group space is referred to as "The Literal Heart of Jesus," and this becomes a running joke of sorts. Yet, Augustus calls Isaac and Hazel there during his last days to write eulogies for him. Why do you think this location held such significance?
- b. What does it mean to leave a legacy? What kind of legacy would you like to leave?
- c. Do you think Hazel and Augustus were particularly heroic in the face of cancer? Why or why not?
- d. The phrase "star-crossed lovers" is often used to describe Hazel and Augustus, as though there might be some sense of kismet behind their meeting. Does the idea of fate make life more meaningful? Can the universe be random and still have meaning?
- e. How did the love between Hazel and Augustus change them as people - specifically, their outlooks on life and death?

- f. How do you feel about the statement, "Without pain, how could we know joy?" Hazel was initially skeptical about this idea. Do **you** think the statement is true? If so, can you provide an example from your own life?
- g. Augustus laments after the bed-wetting incident that Hazel called him "Gus" instead of his full name. Why do you think Hazel might have done this?
- h. What does it mean to "live your best life today?" If you had a terminal illness, what would you do differently? What would you want your family to know?
- i. The music of the fictional band *The Hectic Glow* served as sort of a soundtrack for the story. What might be the soundtrack of **your** life?
- j. This book received a lot of hype when it came out in 2012. Do you think it lived up to that hype, or fell short?
- k. BOOK CLUB LEADERS: Consider having members create their own "140-Character Responses" of the book on Twitter, using a common hashtag related to the book. The Book Club leader could then tweet the hashtag to John Green (@johngreen).
- l. BOOK CLUB LEADERS: Have members either: **1)** create their own fanfiction, perhaps exploring some of the discussion or another telling of the story, or **2)** record their own responses to the book on video and feature them on your library website.