DON'T SAY WE **DIDN'T** WARN YOU



## ARIEL DELGADO DIXON

## **BOOK CLUB KIT**

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. How would you characterize the relationship between the narrator and her sister, Fawn?
- 2. "She always said autonomy was a gift she gave us, and that we were supposed to use it to become our own masterpieces," the narrator says of her mother. What do you make of this? Is it a convenient excuse for parental neglect?
- 3. Their father's record, Playa Mala's *Vieques*, appears throughout the novel. What is this significance of this record for the narrator? For Fawn? For their father?
- 4. Describe the program at Veld. Did it have any benefits for the girls sent there? If so, what were they? If not, how would you change it?
- 5. Why is it so difficult for the narrator to talk about Zeke and his accident? How is this experience different for her than all of the other tragedies that seem to occur around her?
- 6. How does the narrator's relationship with Rochelle mirror her mother's relationship with Candace? Why do you think both women are drawn to women who take care of them even when they aren't truly in love?
- 7. Why does the narrator have such difficulty telling their mother and, later, father, the truth about Fawn's behavior? Why does she always let Fawn get away with things?

- 8. The narrator mines her parents' story for clues about her own life and future. "If I came to decode the warnings within my parents' origin story, I thought I might cure myself of this destructive desire, the longing to be consumed." As you learn more about her parents' origin stories (and the story of their relationship), did it elucidate anything about the narrator's life? If so, what? If not, why not?
- 9. If you had spreadsheets for your life like Rochelle, what things would you track?
- 10. Why does the narrator set the fire? How, if at all, does this change her relationship with Fawn?
- 11. "You were supposed to be watching me," Fawn taunts her sister after she breaks the perfume. Who is responsible for Fawn's behavior?
- 12. What is the significance of Fawn's assumed identity, May? What differentiates Fawn from her true self and when she's "playing" May?
- 13. Do you feel the narrator received any closure in her relationship with her father? Why or why not? What about with her mother? With Fawn?
- 14. What did you think about the book's ending?



BANG BANG (MY BABY SHOT ME DOWN) Frank Sinatra

ON THE STREET WHERE YOU LIVE Vic Damone with Percy Faith & His Orchestra

GIRL FROM THE MOUNTAIN Ghetto Brothers

**SUPERSTITION** Stevie Wonder

17 Youth Lagoon

**BISCUIT TOWN** King Krule

REBEL REBEL David Bowie

FIREWORKS Yoya

WHY TRY TO CHANGE ME NOW Fionna Apple

**PLAYLIST** LISTEN TO A PLAYLIST INSPIRED BY DON'T SAY WE DIDN'T WARN YOU, CREATED BY ARIEL DELGADO DIXON, ON <u>SPOTIFY</u> OR ON A SERVICE OF YOUR CHOICE.

OBSESION Myrta Silva, Daniel Santos, Julio Jaramillo

ARIEL DELGADO DIXON, ON SPOTIFY OR ON A SERVICE OF YOUR CHOICE.

CHIQUITITA ABBA

**BLUE VEINS** The Raconteurs

WORLD THAT'S NOT REAL Gloria Ann Taylor

OH MY GOD Ida Maria

A SONG FOR YOU Donny Hathaway

STARS Nina Simone



GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY Bob Dylan

ALMOST BLUE Elvis Costello & The Attractions

I SAW A TEAR Ghetto Brothers

ONCF Laura Marling

ACID TONGUE Jenny Lewis

BAD MAN'S WORLD Jenny Lewis

WHERE OR WHEN Peggy Lee

HALFWAY HOME Scanners