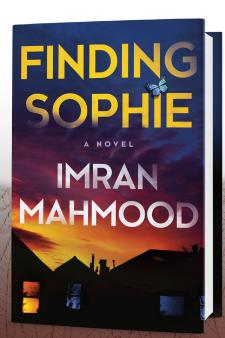


FINDING SOPHIE

- 1. What are the key differences in the way that Harry and Zara process their grief and in the ways in which they search for Sophie?
- 2. Do you think either Harry and/or Zara go too far? Are they justified in their actions? Are they too close to the problem to see things rationally?
- 3. In the trial scenes, how well did you think witnesses coped with cross-examination? Is the trial process an aid to truth or a hindrance?
- 4. What was the trigger for Sophie's disappearance? Was it in some ways inevitable or could her parents have prevented it and if so, how?
- 5. Are all the dangers faced by teenage girls today capable of being neutralized by parenting? Is there a level of risk that a parent must accept in order to live a normal life?
- 6. Walls feature in the book as a theme. What different things do the walls represent? Are the physical walls as difficult to penetrate as the emotional ones? Do they serve the same purposes?
- 7. Is grief just the price of love? Should we always prepare ourselves to pay that price whenever we enter love? If we did, would that change its nature?
- 8. With Sophie coming of age, how much responsibility does she bear for the actions leading up to her disappearance and beyond? Was she trapped between her own world and her parents—between her own wish for agency and their wish for safety?
- 9. What do you think the butterfly symbolized? Why do you think the author included the butterfly in such a prominent way?
- 10. Were you surprised by the ending? Was there a point at which you gave up hope for Sophie?



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION