

ALL THE COLOURS OF THE DARK

BOOK CLUB NOTES

- ☞ Was *All the Colours of the Dark* what you were expecting from the cover and blurb? Did you find it difficult or upsetting to read at any point?
- ☞ In your opinion, which genre would you describe *All the Colours of the Dark* as? What are the key themes? What novels would you compare it to?
- ☞ How important is the small-town setting of Monta Clare and its community dynamic to the novel? How might the novel have been different if Patch and Saint had grown up elsewhere?
- ☞ How do Patch and Saint process their experiences of trauma, grief, and loss differently to each other? Do you think there's a 'right' or 'wrong' way to do so?
- ☞ While Patch and Saint are at the core of the story, there are several side characters who have an intrinsic part to play. Choose one (examples could include Misty, Norma, Sammy, Jimmy or even Dr Tooms) and discuss why they're important to the book, and how your opinion of them as a character changed as the novel progressed.
- ☞ *All the Colours of the Dark* has a sprawling setting, across many different places and times. How did this affect you as a reader?
- ☞ Discuss the importance of the title. How did the specifics of his time held in the dark affect Patch and the choices he makes in the novel?
- ☞ Author Chris Whittaker says that writing this book '*forced me to look back at the difficult events that shaped my life, and see that sometimes, against the longest of odds, something special can come from something bad.*' What positives do you think come from the upsetting events of the novel? Ask anyone in the group if they would like to share if this quote has rung true for them too.
- ☞ For a long time, Saint isn't entirely sure Grace exists. As a reader, did you find yourself doubting the veracity of Patch's story? Why or why not?
- ☞ Did you see any of the book's dramatic twists coming? Did any one revelation surprise you more than the others?
- ☞ What do you think the future looks like for Patch and Saint, both together and apart?

Please note this book deals with some confronting content, and it's important to always make sure everyone in your group feels comfortable and safe discussing some of these questions and topics.

