

Questions for your book club

- What do you think you would have done in Cath's place? How do you think you would have reacted to such terrible news?
- Cath says 'I was her mother. I had given her life. I was her mother. I had given her a death sentence.' What do you think of the way Cath takes on the guilt and responsibility for Mia's illness?
- One of the strongest themes in this book is identity and specifically, the identities that women carry with them: daughter, sister, woman, wife, mother, lover... Do you think one identity should take precedence over the others? Why?
- How does the novel deal with the idea of illness and psychological trauma?
- Do you judge Cath for the decisions she makes?
- What role do you feel Dave plays in the novel? Do you think he is to blame for anything that unfolds? Do you judge Dave or Cath more?

- This novel looks closely at the lengths a person would go to to save their loved ones. Can you think of anything you wouldn't do in a similar situation?
- The issue of parents making decisions on behalf of their children is very much discussed in the current climate. Where do you think the law should draw the line?
- Is Richard accountable for what happens over the course of the novel? What was your opinion of him by the end of the book?
- What do you think the future holds for Cath, Dave, Richard and Mia?