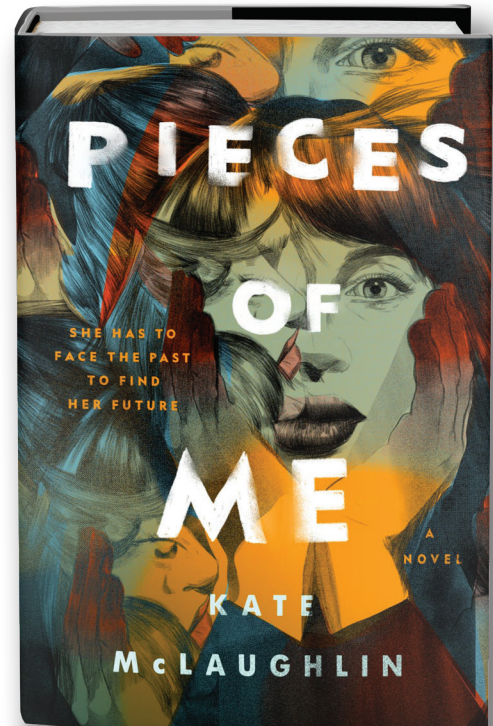


PIECES OF ME

Discussion Questions

1. When the novel opens, Dylan has lost three days, and the memories she does have of this time are fuzzy, as if they belong to someone else. How would you have reacted in a similar situation?
2. Dissociative identity disorder can often be misdiagnosed at first. In what ways did Dylan's family and friends either aid or hinder her process toward diagnosis because of this? What about after?
3. Dylan's love interest, Connor, is someone she doesn't know well initially, but who is understanding and kind as she grapples with her disorder, in a way that she often wonders about because she doesn't believe she would be as understanding. Why do you think this is? Is it important for Dylan to find these qualities in a partner? Explain.
4. Mark sometimes shows his concern in ways that are hurtful. How does his emotional response mature throughout the story?
5. As Dylan begins to communicate with her alters, she begins to feel less alone with the truth she can't remember. What roles have they played over the years and how do those roles begin to change after she learns more about them as individuals?



6. At the end of the book, Dylan realizes that deep down she blamed her mother for what happened to her, but chooses not to share that realization. Do you believe this was the right choice for her? Would you have chosen differently? Discuss.
7. Over the course of the book, does Dylan change as she accepts and engages with her alters and learns the secret they hid from/for her? Explain.
8. McLaughlin often explores serious topics in her work. Here, the focus is on dissociative identity disorder, and in *What Unbreakable Looks Like* it is on trafficking. What are some other topics you would love to see explored more in young adult literature? What are some of your favorite novels that explore similar topics?
9. Why do you think art is so important to Dylan? How does it help her understand herself and her alters?
10. Why do you believe Izzy is the first one to dig deeper when it comes to Dylan's memory lapses and other unexplained behavior? How does this inform their relationship once Dylan acknowledges her alters?

