

# WHERE DARKNESS BLOOMS

## Discussion Questions



1. One of the main themes of this book is sisterhood. How do you think these bonds impacted Jude, Whitney, Bo, and Delilah? How do you think sisterhood impacts your own life?
2. No one else in town is looking after the girls—they look after themselves. Why do you think that is? What does it say about society?
3. At the end of the book, Bo does the unimaginable to save herself and the other girls. Do you think there's ever a circumstance where violence is warranted? What are the criteria, and do they change according to the individual situation?
4. As the oldest, Delilah is burdened with the responsibility of caring for the other girls. How do you think this expectation we as a society have for eldest daughters impacts the pursuit of their own dreams?
5. Another theme in *Where Darkness Blooms* is how the patriarchy hurts us all. Name some ways the patriarchal structure of Bishop has hurt the girls and their mothers.
6. Whitney struggles with the guilt of moving on after Eleanor's death. Do you think Whitney's guilt was justified? How do you know when it's time to move on?
7. Each of the girls has their own unique connection to the town's curse. Delilah feels the pain of the Hardings' ancestry, Bo talks to the sunflowers, Jude hears the wind, and Whitney talks to the weather vane. Do you think there's a connection between their "gifts" and their personalities? Or their pain?
8. Do you think growing up in Bishop hurt Bennett, too? Do you see him as a victim or perpetrator? Or both?
9. Of all the girls, Jude has the most difficult time recognizing true love in a town built on fear. Do you think she learns her lesson by the end of the book? Going forward, what are your hopes for her?
10. Which of the four main characters do you identify with most? How so?

