

## General Discussion Questions on Family Dynamics

**How do the relationships among family members shape the identity and choices of the main characters?**

*(Consider how siblings, parents, and extended family influence decisions and growth.)*

**What conflicts arise within the family, and how are they resolved (or not resolved)?**

*(Explore arguments, misunderstandings, and reconciliations.)*

**How do external pressures (such as societal expectations, trauma, or adoption) affect family relationships?**

*(Look at issues like adoption, race, sexuality, or economic hardship.)*

**Are there characters who take on unexpected family roles (such as a sibling acting as a parent, or a friend becoming like family)?**

*(This is common in stories where traditional family structures are absent or strained.)*

**How do past experiences or family history impact current relationships and choices?**

*(Discuss how backstories influence present dynamics.)*

**What does it mean to be a “family” in this story? Is family defined by blood, adoption, or something else?**

*(Discuss the concept of chosen family and non-traditional structures.)*

**How do characters balance their own needs with the expectations of their family?**

*(Explore themes of independence, responsibility, and loyalty.)*

**What role do friends play in supporting or challenging the main characters’ family relationships?**

*(Discuss the importance of friendship networks alongside family.)*

**How do family dynamics in the story reflect broader societal issues (such as class, race, or mental health)?**

*(Consider how external factors shape family life.)*

**What would you have done differently if you were one of the family members in the story?**

**How does the story challenge or reinforce traditional ideas about family?**

*(Discuss whether the novel supports or questions common family norms.)*