

General Discussion Questions on Limits of Tolerance

What does the novel suggest are the moral or ethical boundaries of tolerance?

Can a society truly be tolerant of everything, or must it draw lines? Who decides where the lines are drawn?

Which characters show the most tolerance, and which the least? What drives their actions—personal values, societal pressure, fear, or something else?

Are there moments where a character's tolerance becomes harmful—either to themselves or to others? Should they have acted differently?

When does tolerance become complicity? Can staying silent or “respecting” someone's views be wrong? How is this shown in the story?

How do power dynamics affect the limits of tolerance in the novel?

Are certain characters or groups expected to be more tolerant than others?

Is the author making a statement about real-world tolerance through the events or characters in the novel? If so, what is it?

What role does identity (race, gender, class, religion, etc.) play in how tolerance is portrayed or tested in the story?

Are there any instances of “intolerant tolerance”—where a group preaches acceptance but acts with hostility toward dissenting views? How is this contradiction explored?

Did any character face consequences for their tolerance or intolerance? What does that say about the values of the society within the book?

In what ways does the novel challenge your own views on tolerance? Did it change or reinforce how you think about the subject?