

## General Discussion Questions on Slavery

**How does the author use narrative perspective to convey the experience of slavery?**

Compare first-person narratives with third-person novels.

**What role does memory play in the representation of slavery in the text?**

Consider how characters remember or try to forget their pasts.

**How is the concept of freedom portrayed—physically, mentally, and spiritually?**

**What is the significance of family and kinship in the lives of enslaved characters?**

How are these bonds formed, maintained, or broken?

**How do enslaved characters resist oppression, both subtly and overtly?**

Look for both physical resistance and psychological survival tactics.

**How are power and control exercised by slaveholders in the text?**

Are there moments where enslaved characters subvert or reclaim power?

**In what ways does the author use symbolism to comment on slavery?**