



## PATRICE LAWRENCE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Orangeboy

*'Don't admit, don't deny, shut your mouth like the FBI . . .'* Marlon is caught between what his brother has taught him and what his mum is urging him to do. Should he have told the police that the pills were Sonya's? Why are people criticised for 'grassing'?

Sonya, Marlon, D-Ice, Mrs Steedman and Tish put themselves in danger because of loyalty to their friends and family. How far would you go to defend the people you love?

Sonya tells Marlon that he could be a brain surgeon and he laughs at her. Do you think this is possible for Marlon? If not, why not?

*'Not cool enough, not clever enough, not street boy enough for anyone to take notice.'* What groups or cliques have you come across in your life? Are you considered a member of any group? If so, how do you think people see you?

Music is important to Marlon, especially as it gives him a link to his father. What does music mean to you? Are there songs that remind you of friends or family? What song would you pass on to the next generation and why?

### Indigo Donut

*'It was easy for the thing to wake up, scabbling and hooking her insides, heaving itself through her.'*

Indigo calls her anger 'the thing'. Why do you think she does this?

Bailey and Indigo come from very different families. What does the word 'family' mean to you? Can you think of families that aren't like yours? What do you like about these families?

Grief is a theme that runs through *Indigo Donut*. Have you helped someone who is grieving, or have you experienced grief in your own life? How did you handle either situation? Do you think grief applies to circumstances beyond someone dying?





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Indigo's icon is Debbie Harry. She dresses like her and loves her music, but she also identifies with Debbie as she was also in foster care. Do you have any icons you admire? How are you influenced by them?

Both Bailey and Indigo like to match their musical choices to their mood. Do you do this too? Can you think of any go-to songs that match certain emotions?

### Rose, Interrupted

Why do you think Rose embraces a fairy kei look after leaving the Pilgrims? Do you have any particular ways in which you express who you are?

Do you think young people are given enough help to deal with the negative side of social media? How do you deal with it yourself? Rose goes to Bicchi Blogger and the Cast Outs forum for help. How can social media be supportive?

What would you do if you were in Rudder's situation? Why do you think he shared the picture? How do you think he could have handled it differently?

Rose has to leave behind lots of things she has grown to love when she returns to the Pilgrims. What things in your life would you struggle to be parted from if you had to make the same choice as Rose? Why are those things important to you?

Rose and Rudder are trying to learn the rules of their new world. If someone with completely different life experiences from you moved into your area and joined your school, college or workplace, what are the unspoken rules they would need to know to help them fit in?



