

DISCUSS LYCANTHROPY AND OTHER CHRONIC ILLNESSES!

Review the following questions to help jump-start conversation surrounding Kristen O'Neal's *Lycanthropy and Other Chronic Illnesses*.

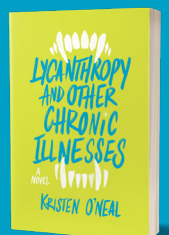
1. *Lycanthropy and Other Chronic Illnesses* is a heartfelt story about friendship and living with chronic illness. What do you think O'Neal is trying to accomplish with this story?
2. After her Lyme diagnosis, Priya must put her dreams of becoming a doctor on the back burner and return home. Can you relate to Priya having to adjust to a new reality?
3. Priya's family desperately wants to support her, but they don't always understand her situation. Do you sympathize with Priya? With her family?

4. Priya and Brigid's powerful friendship is deepened and challenged throughout the story. Do you think O'Neal was successful in conveying the depth of this bond?

5. The narrative wavers between lighthearted humor and heavier subjects like debilitating diseases and the mental health implications that come with living with them. Does this fluctuating tone work for you?



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DISCUSS LYCANTHROPY AND OTHER CHRONIC ILLNESSES CONTINUED

- Interactions between the “oof ouch my bones” support group are told through a Discord server chat format. What did you think of this stylistic choice? How do these chats play into the larger narrative?
- 6.
- Online friendships are portrayed in a healthy and favorable light in *Lycanthropy and Other Chronic Illnesses*. How do you think the internet and social media have shaped the way we communicate with each other?
- 7.
- What were some of your favorite moments from the book?
- 8.

- Lycanthropy is portrayed as a real chronic illness Brigid has to manage. How is this depiction of lycanthropy similar or different to other depictions of werewolves in pop culture?
- 9.
- Describe how this book made you feel. What are your thoughts on the ending?
- 10.



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