



The Boy at the Back of the Class

Onjali Q. Rauf

Tome Society It List Discussion Guide



Club Tome September Book of the Month

Pre-reading questions

1. One of the themes of this book is refugees. What does that mean? Have you read any other books about refugees? What are your predictions for how this theme will play out in the book?
2. What do you like about the cover? Does it match the description of the book? If you could change the cover, how would you redesign it?
3. This book is set in England. Have you read any other books with a similar setting? What genre or setting is your favorite to read?

Post-reading questions

1. How did this book relate to the Tome Society 2021-2022 Annual Theme, “Turn the Page”?
2. This book is set in England, what was different about their school experience than yours? What new words or phrases did you learn?
3. Did you like how this book ended? Were you surprised by it? If you could change the ending of this book, how would you change it and why?
4. Who were your favorite and least favorite characters? Why?
5. What does it mean to be a good friend. What are some examples of kindness and friendship in the story?
6. What lessons did the group of friends learn in the story? How did they change throughout the story?
7. If you could change something about one of the characters, what would you change and why?
8. Come up with a Like, Try, Why for this book. Tell the group another book they should try if they like this book, and why they are similar or would appeal to a reader who enjoyed this book.

Post-reading activities

1. Choose one of the characters from *The Boy at the Back of the Class*, write a letter to Onjali Q. Rauf, as that character. Follow the guidelines to enter it into the Tome Character to Author Letter Competition.
2. One of the themes in *The Boy at the Back of the Class* is refugees. Do some research on refugees around the world. Create an infographic showing your findings. Follow the guidelines to enter it into the Tome Infographic Competition.
3. Redesign the cover of *The Boy at the Back of the Class*. Follow the guidelines to enter it into the Tome Digital Graphic Cover Redesign Competition.

More About This Book

Author’s Website: <https://twitter.com/OnjaliRauf>