Discussion Questions

- 1. This story is set in the 1980s. How does this affect the plot & themes? Do you think the novel's events might play out differently if it were set in contemporary times?
- 2. When does Rachel first become aware of her racial difference? What does it mean for her identity when she starts to see herself as the "new girl"? How does her understanding of her identity continue to evolve over time?
- 3. Imagery of flying and falling runs throughout the novel. Are these two concepts always opposites? At the end, is Rachel more inspired to fall or fly?

