



Book Club in a Bag Discussion Questions

This Accident of Being Lost by Leanne Simpson

- 1. What is your immediate reaction to the cover? Has your interpretation changed after reading the book?
- 2. What is the significance of the title? Why does Simpson use the word "accident" to describe being lost?
- 3. As a compilation of short stories, songs, and poetry, the order of the pieces play an important role in how the themes are expressed and interpreted by the reader. How did the structure of the book impact your experience? Was there a story you would recommend reading first, second, etc.? Why?
- 4. Simpson uses singing and song in many passages. What is the significance of singing in the book?
- 5. What passages strike you as insightful or profound? Did Simpson use any literary devices to help convey her message in the passage you selected? How did the use of a literary device help express the ideas of the passage?
- 6. Simpson often uses the first person to disorient the reader so they cannot tell which details are lived or imagined. How did the narrative affect your reading of the book?
- 7. The last passage on page 116 states: "The road is open in one direction and we have the entire national park to ourselves. A gift no NDN should waste." What is the significance of ending with this update?
- 8. The last sentence on the back cover describes this book as " burn[ing] with a quiet intensity, like a campfire in your backyard, challenging you to reconsider the world you thought you knew." Do you think this is an accurate description of the book?

These questions were created by Clarington Library, Museums & Archives staff to enhance your discussion of the book.



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