DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR TRAFFICK BY ELLEN HOPKINS

- 1. How do the characters in *Traffick* evolve from where we left them in *Tricks*? Discuss their growth, setbacks, and the choices they make throughout the novel.
- 2. Consider the consequences of the characters' actions in *Traffick* How do their choices in *Tricks* continue to impact their lives in the sequel? Discuss the concept of accountability and redemption.
- 3. Discuss how *Traffick* sheds light on the issue of sex trafficking. How does the novel portray the realities faced by victims of trafficking, and what insights does it offer into the methods and motivations of traffickers?
- 4. Like *Tricks, Traffick* utilizes Ellen Hopkins' signature verse format. How does this format contribute to the storytelling? Discuss the emotional impact and intimacy created through poetry.
- 5. Reflect on how identity intersects with the characters' experiences in *Traffick*. Consider factors such as race, gender, sexuality, and socioeconomic status. How do these intersecting identities influence their vulnerability and resilience?
- 6. Explore the various relationships depicted in *Traffick* including romantic relationships, friendships, and familial bonds. How do these relationships provide support or contribute to the characters' struggles?
- 7. Trauma is a central theme in *Traffick*. Discuss how the characters grapple with their past traumas and attempt to heal. What coping mechanisms do they employ, and what role do relationships play in their healing processes?
- 8. Consider the social commentary embedded in *Traffick*. How does the novel address broader issues such as systemic inequality, poverty, and the commercialization of sex? In what ways does it challenge readers to confront uncomfortable truths about society?
- 9. Discuss moments of empowerment and agency in *Traffick*. How do the characters reclaim control over their lives and assert their autonomy in the face of exploitation and oppression?
- 10. Despite the dark subject matter, *Traffick* also offers moments of hope and resilience. Identify instances where the characters demonstrate resilience and perseverance. How do they find strength in the midst of adversity?

Discussion questions generated by ChatGPT.

