

Some Like it Cold

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are your first impressions of the small town of Lake Pristine and why might this be a complicated place for a young autistic person to call home?
2. Jasper Montgomery and Arthur Lancaster feel exposed and on edge when they are around one another. Why do you think people sometimes react this way to others they are deeply drawn to?
3. The Apartment by Billy Wilder is one of the old black and white movies that Jasper goes to see at the Arthouse. A picture about people-pleasing and hiding one's true self, why does it perhaps share themes with this novel and why does it speak to Jasper more than anyone else?
4. The novel is told in third person but follows both Jasper and Arthur's points of view. Is this choice effective in the telling of a love story?
5. Throughout most of the novel, Arthur seems to be in denial over his feelings for Jasper. What elements of life in Lake Pristine could have caused this?
6. Before she admits her feelings for Arthur, Jasper tells him that she masks for survival. Has this strategy helped or hindered her as a young autistic person?
7. When Jasper tells Odette about Craig and Sophie, Odette reacts in anger and implies that Jasper's autism is clouding her judgement. Why does this come as such a betrayal?
8. The novel takes place during the in-between stages of being a young adult who has graduated from high school but not yet decided on their future path. Why, in your view, is this specific time period used as part of the novel's setting?
9. Many characters find it easier to be their authentic selves when engaging with or making art. Arthur with his documentary filming, Grace with her ballet and Jasper with her design and love of old movies. Why do you think this is?
10. Throughout the novel, Jasper is described as being beautiful, intelligent, kind, talented and generally well-liked. Why is it important to see autistic heroines described this way, by their community?



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