WE ARE LOST AND FOUND Helene Dunbar

Reading Group Guide

- 1. What differences and similarities do you see between today and the 1983 depicted in WE ARE LOST AND FOUND?
- 2. Do you believe that the lives of teens then were easier or more difficult compared to today?
- 3. What might have changed for these characters if the AIDS virus been introduced during the internet age when information could be more easily accessed and shared?
- 4. Do Michael's goals at the beginning of the book seem attainable to you? Do you believe that he does everything he can to achieve them?
- 5. In what ways are Michael and Connor similar? Different? Do those similarities and differences make their relationship more or less difficult?
- 6. Do you see a future for Michael and Gabriel? Why or why not?
- 7. What role does Becky play in the triad of the friendships with Michael and James?
- 8. Becky spends a great deal of time looking for answers from outside sources including religion and Dial-a-Daze. What do you think she's looking for?
- 9. What role do you think James's production, Blood Makes Noise, plays in the greater story? Can you draw any similarities to how artists today reflect on contemporary events?
- 10. How does each character react differently to the AIDS crisis? What does that say about him/her?
- 11. How do homophobia and AIDS shape the actions and feelings of the main characters?
- 12. Each character is deeply afraid of something. How does that fear shape their actions?
- 13. What role does music play in the story? Does it play a similar role in your life?
- 14. Did you want to stop any of the main characters from doing something? What and why?
- 15. Is there anything you would want to write on the wall in the language lab?
- 16. This book is told from Michael's point of view. If you could read this same story from another character's view point, who would you choose and why?