

# PRECIOUS YOU BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

- 'There is no one with a greater sense of entitlement than a millennial.' Do you agree with the media's view of millennials as 'precious snowflakes'? Where do you think this stereotype has come from?
- Katherine and Lily are both complex characters, and both are hiding secrets. Were you drawn to one of them over the other? How did you respond to them as characters?
- The novel is narrated from both Katherine and Lily's perspectives. How does Helen Monks Takhar use this dual narration, and the device of Lily's diary, to build tension and suspense?
- 'Out of nowhere, I got the sense you were a young person with whom I might possibly have some common ground. You were like looking into a mirror, or more like a window into a different time in my life, not long past, but just out of reach.' Lily reminds Katherine of her younger self. To what extent does this contribute to Katherine allowing Lily into her life? Do you think that in other circumstances, they could have become close?
- Do you see some of Katherine's views relating to millennials as old-school and out-dated? Or do you think that people shouldn't have to bow down to strict standards of political correctness, both in the workplace and outside?
- Were you surprised by the novel's final twists? If so, which did you find the most shocking?
- 'I honestly don't know why more people my age aren't more like me. Why aren't they angrier? We're not much more than play things to those older than us, to people exactly like KR.' Can you empathise with Lily's motives for invading Katherine's life? Is it possible to see her as an 'avenging angel' for the millennial generation?
- 'Not every woman would let Iain be who he was, live the life he enjoyed.' Who do you think makes a better partner for Iain, Katherine or Lily? Who did you think he would ultimately choose to be with?
- 'Compared to when I was at the height of my potential in my twenties, I'd been feeling invisible most of the time.' Can you empathise with Katherine's feeling of invisibility? How do you think this feeling contributes to everything that happens once she meets Lily?
- 'I suppose you could say I was a victim of neglect as a child.' Both Katherine and Lily have had difficult childhoods. To what extent do you think that impacts on their behaviour? Can it explain it, or excuse it?
- 'I would learn very quickly that every single person in my world would take your side first, always give you the benefit of the doubt before they would me. A privilege given to the young and beautiful, a privilege I didn't know I had until I lost it.' Do you think that this is true – that the young and the beautiful are automatically granted privilege? If so, how do you think this impacts our society, and which areas in particular?
- 'A lot of offensive stuff is happening. Why should people not be offended? People are offended but they're using that feeling of being offended to bring about change.' Do you

agree with this statement? Can harnessing one's 'offendedness' be a force for positive action?