

READING GROUP QUESTIONS

1. In this book Sam gets her wish for a “real Christmas” with the Star family. Do you think you would have enjoyed being a guest at their Christmas dinner?
2. Morley’s mother thinks that, at age 11, Morley is too young to have her own phone. Do you agree or disagree?
3. There is also a No Home Computers rule for Morley and Daisy Star. Is this a good thing or not, in your opinion?
4. Think back to your favorite family holiday. What memories stand out for you that made it special?
5. Have you ever had to change your plans – or have them changed for you – due to a ‘major weather event’ like the winter storm in this story? What happened?
6. Sam faces a dilemma when she has to audition for music schools. Would you have made the same choice she did in that situation? Why or why not?
7. Sam has a very different vision of her own future than her mother has. How much (or little) do you think parents should direct a child’s career direction or future life choices?
8. What sort of childhood do you think Soo Min had? Was it similar to how Sam is growing up?
9. What do you think of Soo Min’s parenting methods? Or Margaret’s?

Reading Group Questions – Rules For Flying

10. What do you think of Madame Boulanger’s teaching style? Would you enjoy studying something you are passionate about with her? If so, what skill would it be?
11. Sam is uncomfortable with the *prodigy* label. Do you agree with her?
12. Sam doesn’t get on the plane to Hawaii. Why not? What do you think would have happened if she had?
13. Have you ever been stranded or lost in a city you do not know, something that happens to Sam in this story? What did you do?
14. Despite everything that happens, Sam feels “lucky” in this story. Do you agree with her? How much do you think luck influences your life?
15. In this story, Eira becomes an ‘instant’ parent. It’s a huge commitment. Do you think she made it impulsively? Do you think she’ll be good at it?
16. Sam is angry and does not feel very forgiving towards her mother. What do you think their future relationship will be like? How do you think what happened in this story between Sam and her mother will affect her as she is growing into her teens and when she is a young adult?
17. Both Sam and Morley have reasons to envy each other. What are these reasons? What do you think are the chances of each getting what she wants?
18. Sam’s father is mostly absent from her life, but is he also a good father?
19. What do you think it would be like to be the child of a famous parent? Would you hide that fact, as Sam does, or not?
20. Sam is used to living in a wealthy family, while Morley’s family is middle class and lately has been struggling. How does this influence what the girls believe and how they act or react in difficult situations?

Reading Group Questions – Rules For Flying

21. Who is your favorite character in this story and why?
22. Who is your least favorite character in this story and why?
23. What is your own Number 1 rule for airports and flying?