

[Nothing to See Here by Kevin Wilson](#)

Discussion Questions

1. This book takes place in the 1990s - how does this story benefit from not being set in present day?
2. What was that like to read a male author writing from a female perspective?
3. What do you think the kids' spontaneous combustion represented? Is it a metaphor for something?
4. What sort of preconceived notions does Lillian bring to this job? How do Bessie and Roland challenge those notions?
5. At the end of chapter three, Lillian expresses surprise that the children's hair remains unscinged after they burst into flames: "I don't know why, with these demon children bursting into flames right in front of me, their bad haircuts remaining intact was the magic that fully amazed me, but that's how it works, I think. The big thing is so ridiculous that you absorb only the smaller miracles." Do you relate to this sentiment? What other "smaller miracles" are present in the story?
6. How does wealth and privilege shape the story? Which characters most feel the impact of this?
7. Did you enjoy the use of humor throughout the novel? Why or why not?
8. How does the competitive edge between Madison and Lillian play into their relationship? And do you think their relationship will live on after the events of the novel?
9. How do the family units presented at the beginning of the book evolve and change? What does Lillian value in family? Which characters share those values, and which characters differ?

Themes to discuss: Privilege, Money, Family, Friendship, Fitting In, Parenting

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