

## October Tween Book Club Questions

### ...and Read Alikes for Lover, Sugar, Magic Book 1

#### General Questions:

1. What did you like best about this book?
2. What did you like least about this book?
3. What other books did this remind you of?
4. Which characters in the book did you like best?
5. Which characters did you like least?
6. Did you have any favorite quotes from the book? Why did this quote stand out to you?
7. If you got the chance to ask the author of this book one question, what would it be?
8. Which character in the book would you most like to meet?
9. What do you think of the book's cover? How well does it convey what the book is about? If the book has been published with different covers, which one do you like best?
10. How original and unique was this book?
11. If you could hear this same story from another person's point of view, who would you choose?
12. Do you think this story would make a good graphic novel?
13. Did this book seem realistic?
14. How well do you think the author built the world in the book?

15. Did the characters seem believable to you? Did they remind you of anyone?

16. Did the book's pace seem too fast/too slow/just right?

### **MY QUESTIONS FROM THE BOOK:**

1. What does Leo feel when she realizes she can do magic?
  - a. What are the consequences of her breaking the rules?
  - b. Why does she keep doing it?
  - c. What would you have done differently?
  - d. What kind of situation would it have been ok to break the rules?
  
2. The story's setting and plot relied on Latino/Mexican religion and folklore. How was this the same or different than other stories you've read about witches or magic?
  
3. Leo is the baby of the family, and her desire to 'prove' herself as being ready to be a grown up gets her into trouble. How would the story have been different if she were a different age or birth order?
  
4. How were Marisol and Isabel different? How were they the same? How did their differences move the story forward?
  
5. Caroline has doubts about their plan regarding Brent. At one point when the spell goes wrong, she says Leo should tell her Mom or Isabel; they need help.

Leo doesn't' despite Caroline being unhappy about what's happening.

- a. What do you think about that?
- b. What should Caroline have done differently?
- c. Was she 'right' to stay quiet and let her friend handle it or should she have told an adult?

## Read Alikes:

### 1. The Haunted House Project (Clasen, Tricia):

"Since her mom died, Andie's family has crumbled. Instead of working, her dad gambles away insurance money, while her sister, Paige, has put her future on hold in order to pick up extra waitressing shifts. Andie's afraid of what will happen if people find out just how bad things are. She's not sure how long she can hide the fact that there's no food or money in the house...or adults, for that matter. When her science partner suggests they study paranormal activity, Andie gets an idea. She wants a sign from her mom--anything to tell her it's going to be okay. Maybe the rest of her family does too. So, she starts a project of her own. Pretending to be her mother's ghost, Andie sprays perfume, changes TV channels, and moves pictures. Haunting her house is Andie's last hope to bring her family back into the land of the living."--From publisher's website.



[https://jocolibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1483986036\\_the\\_haunted\\_house\\_project](https://jocolibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1483986036_the_haunted_house_project)

2. **The Girl Who Drank the Moon (Barnhill, Kelly Regan):**

"An epic fantasy about a young girl raised by a witch, a swamp monster, and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon, who must unlock the powerful magic buried deep inside her. Every year, the people of the Protectorate leave a baby as an offering to the witch who lives in the forest. They hope this sacrifice will keep her from terrorizing their town. But the witch in the forest, Xan, is kind and gentle. She shares her home with a wise Swamp Monster named Glerk and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon, Fyrian. Xan rescues the abandoned children and delivers them to welcoming families on the other side of the forest, nourishing the babies with starlight on the journey. One year, Xan accidentally feeds a baby moonlight instead of starlight, filling the ordinary child with extraordinary magic. Xan decides she must raise this enmagicked girl, whom she calls Luna, as her own. To keep young Luna safe from her own unwieldy power, Xan locks her magic deep inside her. When Luna approaches her thirteenth birthday, her magic begins to emerge on schedule--but Xan is far away. Meanwhile, a young man from the Protectorate is determined to free his people by killing the witch. Soon, it is up to Luna to protect those who have protected her--even if it means the end of the loving, safe world she's always known. The acclaimed author of *The Witch's Boy* has created another epic coming-of-age fairy tale destined to become a modern classic"--



<https://jocolibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1467093036>

3. **Beetle & the Hollowbones (Layne, Aliza)**

Twelve-year-old goblin and witch-in-training Beetle enlists her former best friend, Kat Hollowbones, to help stop Kat's sorceress aunt from demolishing the mall where Beetle's friend Blob Ghost is trapped.



<https://jocolibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/1711941036>

## 2020 October Tween Book Club: Ghost Squad

### Discussion Questions

1. What was your favorite part of this book?
2. What part did you like the least?
3. Would you read another book by this author?
4. On the back of Ghost Squad it says, “Be prepared, respect the dead, and always have a cat.” Can you think of anything else that would be great advice for ghost hunting?
5. What do you think about Lucely and her dad’s ghost tour business? Is there anything you would do differently?
6. Lucely’s ghost catcher was her mason jar of fireflies and Syd’s was her cat, Chunk. What or who would your ghost catcher be?

### Poll Questions

1. Who is your favorite character? Should we include ghosts?
  - Babette
  - Chunk
  - Lucely
  - Mayor Anderson
  - Syd
2. Do you like the book cover?
3. Did you like the ending?
4. Do you think cemeteries are scary?

### Readalikes

- The Girl and the Ghost by Hannah Alkaf
- The Total Eclipse of Nestor Lopez by Adrianna Cuevas
- Scritch Scratch by Lindsay Currie
- Scary Stories for Young Foxes by Christian Heidicker
- The Forest by Stars by Heather Kassner
- When you Trap a Tiger by Tae Keller
- Witch Boy by Molly Ostertag
- The Witches of Willow Cove by Josh Roberts

- Ghosts by Raina Telgemeier