ALL MY RAGE

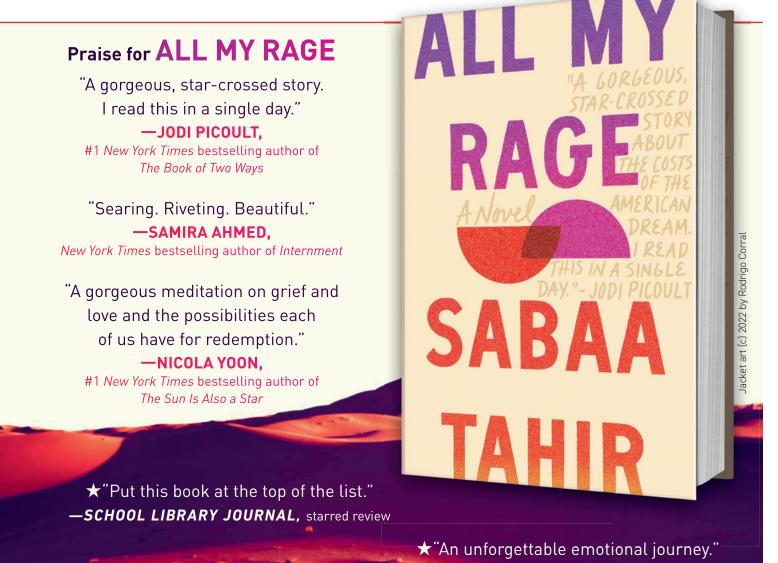
LAHORE, PAKISTAN. THEN.

Misbah is a dreamer and storyteller, newly married to Toufiq in an arranged match. After their young life is shaken by tragedy, they come to the United States and open the Clouds' Rest Inn Motel, hoping for a new start.

JUNIPER, CALIFORNIA. NOW.

Salahudin and Noor are more than best friends; they are family. Growing up as outcasts in the small desert town of Juniper, California, they understand each other the way no one else does. Until The Fight, which destroys their bond with the swift fury of a star exploding.

Now Sal scrambles to run the family motel as his mother Misbah's health fails and his grieving father loses himself to alcoholism. Noor, meanwhile, walks a harrowing tightrope: working at her wrathful uncle's liquor store while hiding the fact that she's applying to college so she can escape him—and Juniper—forever.



-KIRKUS REVIEWS, starred review

DISCUSSION GUIDE







- "He's also my former best friend. My first love. My first heartbreak" (Page 14). What was Sal's reason for initially rejecting Noor? Do you believe he refused her affection to protect her from his past struggles? Why or why not?
- 2. Sal and Noor had different coping mechanisms when it came to Ama's declining health and ultimately her death. In what ways were they similar? How were they different?
- **3.** Chachu had resentment towards Pakastani culture, such as not speaking Urdu or Punjabi with Noor and not eating any of the food that reminded him of his country. What do you think caused that intense animosity?
- **4.** What do you think was the author's motive for delving into the flashbacks of Ama, and how does it connect back to the central characters' present story?
- 5. Sal's and Noor's families left Pakistan for the US to find the "American Dream," but ended up in a majority white community filled with bigotry and racism that left Sal and Noor struggling with racialized bullying. How were Sal and Noor affected by the blunt racism at their school compared to the subtle racism that they encountered with law enforcement? How did this affect their self-awareness and views on society?
- 6. Ashlee's addiction to opioids significantly impacted her life as both a high school student and a mother, whereas Abu's addiction to alcohol impacted his home life. Sal believed selling drugs was the only option he had to keep his family and the Clouds' Rest Inn Motel afloat. How did Sal's actions directly affect both Ashlee and Abu? Do you believe he redeemed himself in the end?
- 7. "All my rage seethes inside me, and there's no place for it to go" (Page 194). The feeling of rage is explored throughout the novel. What did rage mean to Noor? What did rage mean to Sal? In what ways did they express rage similarly? In what ways did they express rage differently?
- 8. There's a juxtaposition of characterization between Sal, Noor, and Misbah. They each have contrasting religious upbringings that shape their current attitudes toward the world. What does faith mean for each of the three narrators, and how do they express it?
- 9. Traumatic events can seep through generations and can be prevalent in current relationships between family members. How was trauma displayed through Sal and Abu's behavior? What traumatic events in Abu's past affected his role as both a father figure and a husband? How was it displayed through Chachu and Noor's behavior? Was Noor trying to justify Chachu's current actions with his past good deed?
- **10.** Both Sal and Noor had massive growth throughout this book as their relationship developed. What were some changes you saw in them by the end?