Discussion Questions for

Iris and Mo

Warning: Some questions contain spoilers. Read the book before looking at the questions.

Thank you for choosing to read *Iris and Mo*! I hope you enjoyed it, and I also hope these questions will help you on your way to an enthusiastic discussion of the novel. This is not an exhaustive list of questions, but simply a starting place. Feel free to select just a few questions or work your way through the entire list.

If you'd like to have me join in your discussion, get in touch! Just use the contact button below. I'd love to share my thoughts with you, and I'd love to hear yours even more. If you're within the Philadelphia/Lancaster region or in Washington County, Maine, I may be able to visit your group in person. If not, I'll send you a Zoom link and we can share with each other that way. (There's no fee for me joining your group. I do this for fun.)

General Questions

1. Who was your favorite character and why?
2. Did any character surprise you? Why?
3. Was there a moment that caused you to laugh out loud or to reach for a tissue?
4. Which character did you relate to or empathize with the most and why?
5. Which character did you dislike or disagree with the most and why?
6. Are there any characters you wish you could have given advice to? What would you tell them?
7. Are there any characters you wish to receive advice from? About what?
8. What do you think happens after the novel concludes?
9. What was the most memorable scene for you and why?
10. How did you feel about the ending?

Questions Specific to *Iris and Mo*

1. I specifically wanted you to know that Mo chose Iris. Why do you think this was important?

2. Though Mo was a cat, he had an important role in Iris's story. What do you believe his role was and how did he fulfill it?
3. Were you Team Ben or Team Frank? Why?
4. What does the novel suggest about friendships later in life?
5. What do you think Iris sees in Frank that other people might miss? How is she able to see this?
6. How does the town of Eastport shape the novel?
7. The novel features older characters in prominent roles. Did Iris, Frank, Emma, or Ben challenge stereotypes about aging? If so, in what way?
8. As the author, I believed it was necessary for Birch to die. Do you agree? Why or why not?
9. How does faith influence the way the characters responded to this difficult circumstance?
10. How did you feel about Iris's explanation of where God was when Birch died?
11. Why did Mo have to die? (Hint: It's not because he was at least 12 years old.)
12. How did you react to Iris's response to Frank over the question of "Why me?"?
13. When Iris spoke of Eastport, she said, "There's just something about this place." What do you think the something was that made her feel like this was home?
14. If you could give one piece of advice or word of comfort to Ben, what would it be? (He is a good man after all.)

Visit www.kidspitpub.com or email me at kidspitpub@gmail.com. I'd love to hear from you!