What are the Odds?
Discussion Questions

Warning: Some questions contain spoilers. Read the novel before looking at the questions. You've been warned!

Thank you for choosing to read What Are the Odds?. 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.

If you'd like to have me join in your discussion, get it touch! I'd love to share my thoughts with you, and I'd love to hear yours. If you're with the Philadelphia/Lancaster area 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 is no fee for me joining your group. I do this for pure enjoyment.)

General Questions

1. Who was your favorite character and why?
2. Was there a moment that caused you to laugh out loud or to reach for a tissue?
3. Which character did you relate to or empathize with the most? Why?
4. Which character did you dislike or disagree with the most? Why?
5. Are there any characters you wish you could have given advice to? What would you tell them?
6. What was the most memorable scene for you? Why?

Questions Specific to What are the Odds?

1. The title, *What Are the Odds,?* can be interpreted in several ways. What does the title mean to you after finishing the book?
2. What was your initial impression of Connor Rogan?

3. Connor has to face the consequences of his past while trying to build a different future. At what point, if any, did you begin to trust him? What made the difference?
4. I was intentionally vague about Connor and Sketch's shared past. What did you think of their relationship? How was it formed? Discuss what you believe about Sketch.
5. Do you agree with Dev's mother's decision to leave Dev's father's name off the birth certificate? Why or why not?
6. Did you agree with Emma's advice that Ben should tell Dev about Connor, even though they weren't sure what was going to happen? Why?
7. Forgiveness, both giving it and receiving it, is at the center of this book. Forgiveness and reconciliation are not necessarily the same thing though. Where do you see that distinction in the novel? Can someone truly forgive another person without restoring the relationship to what it once was?
8. Was there anything about the struggle of giving or receiving forgiveness that you could relate to in your own life?
9. How did Ben's shooting change the emotional stakes of the story for you? Did it change the way you viewed any of the characters?
10. Connor carried considerable guilt over his past. What is the difference between regret, repentance, and redemption? Where do you see each of those in his story?
11. The setting is always important in The Eastport Series. Harris Cove becomes an important place in both Connor and Dev's journey. Why do you think that setting works well for the spiritual turning point in both their journeys?
12. Faith plays out differently in different characters' lives. Which character's spiritual journey or response to faith resonated most with you, and why?
13. If you could sit down with one character immediately after the final chapter, whom would you choose? What would you want to ask?
14. What moment in *What are the Odds?* stayed with you the longest after you finished the book? Why?