

The LAST TALE *of the* FLOWER BRIDE

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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Consider the importance of myths and fables in the novel. Why are the characters drawn to these tales? Do you think stories provide a way for us to make sense of reality, or escape from it?
2. The bridegroom states that “every fairy tale has blood flecked on its muzzle.” Did reading this novel reshape the way you think of fairy tales?
3. Why do you think the bridegroom is initially drawn to Indigo? Why does he choose to stay with her—even when it becomes clear she does not intend to part with her secrets?
4. How is the House of Dreams described in the bridegroom and Azure’s narratives? Why do you think their impressions of the house are so different?
5. Think about the significance of baby teeth and hair in the novel. Why do you think these items hold the most power for the girls?
6. Consider Indigo, Azure, and the bridegroom’s relationship with wealth and luxury. What does money provide, or not, for each character? Why do they choose to embrace or reject this lifestyle?
7. How do Tati’s relationships with Indigo and Azure differ? Do you think Tati saw the girls clearly? How much do you think she knows about Azure’s fate?
8. Why does Azure begin to pull away from Indigo as they grow older? Why does Indigo resist change?
9. How did the dual timeline affect your understanding of Indigo as you read? How did finishing the novel alter your impression of the two narratives?
10. Did you have any theories about what happened to Azure? Were you surprised when the truth was revealed?
11. How do you interpret the end of the novel? What do you think is next for these characters?
12. Think about this book’s title: *The Last Tale of the Flower Bride*. Does the title hold new meaning after finishing the novel?



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