Discussion Guide

Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up With Me
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Teen Dating Violence

Summary

Laura Dean, the most popular girl in high school, was Frederica Riley's dream girl: charming, confident, and SO cute. There's just one problem: Laura Dean is maybe not the greatest girlfriend. Reeling from her latest break up, Freddy's best friend, Doodle, introduces her to the Seek-Her, a mysterious medium, who leaves Freddy some cryptic parting words: break up with her. But Laura Dean keeps coming back, and as their relationship spirals further out of her control, Freddy has to wonder if it's really Laura Dean that's the problem. Maybe it's Freddy, who is rapidly losing her friends, including Doodle, who needs her now more than ever.

Questions

1. How do you think the graphic novel format of the book contributes to its overall message?
2. Were there particular pictures or colors that resonated with you? Why or why not?
3. What themes of intersectionality (gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, class) are present in this book? What examples do you see of these themes?
4. What would you identify as the major themes of this book and the more minor themes?
5. Was there anything challenging or difficult about reading this book?
6. What are some lessons this book teaches us about relationships?
7. What themes of platonic friendships or relationships are explored in this book?
8. What do you think that the plants symbolize throughout this book? Are there other relevant symbols or motifs?
9. What can adults who care for teens learn about how to better support them in their relationships from this graphic novel?

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