## Discussion Guide -



We Had to Be: An Anthology by Breast Cancer Survivors, Previvors, Thrivers, & their Families

Joely A. Serino, Ed.

Independently published 2022 254 pages ISBN: 979-8834974673 **Breast Cancer** 

## Summary

Hearing the words, "You have breast cancer," is a devastating blow. To help process their experience and to cope, many individuals turn toward writing and the arts to express themselves and their feelings during this tumultuous time. We Had to Be: An Anthology by Breast Cancer Survivors, Previvors, Thrivers, & their Families, curated and edited by Joely A. Serino, is filled with the writings and artwork of over 30 individuals from more than 8 different countries sharing how breast cancer touched their lives and changed them.

## **Questions**

- 1. Considering the subject matter of breast cancer survivors, what do you think about how this book is written as an anthology?
- 2. Were there experiences or stories in the book that resonated with you from your own experiences or that of people close to you?
- 3. What did you like best about this book?
- 4. What was most challenging about this book?
- 5. Did any artwork in the book stand out to you?
- 6. Did you have a favorite poem from the book?
- 7. What information provided about navigating the healthcare system included in the book did you find the most helpful?
- 8. What did you learn about survival from reading the book?
- 9. What new questions do you now have about breast cancer after reading this book?

