Discussion Guide



Come Home, Indio
Jim Terry

Street Noise Books
2020
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Alcohol Use Disorder

Summary

From a childhood in suburbia, disconnected from his identity as an Indigenous person, through an urban adulthood marked by a struggle with alcoholism and the death of his parents, to his life-altering experience at Standing Rock, the author begins to find a new sense of self as a Native and as an American.

Questions

1. Jim Terry talks about 'the desire to belong' as a major factor for his first experience with alcohol. Is that kind of peer pressure something that has ever affected you as well?
2. Native Americans are at a higher risk of alcohol addiction than the general population of the
3. U.S. How does that play into Jim Terry's experience with alcohol?
4. With parents who are divorcing, a mother with a chronic illness, and the death of a sibling, Jim Terry goes through a lot of rough things as a kid. How does he connect his difficult childhood to his drinking?
5. Throughout his alcoholism, especially in college and after graduating, Jim Terry has several 'wake-up calls' that he doesn't pay attention to. How do these moments affect how you felt reading about this part of his life?
6. Jim Terry is a comics creator who writes and draws for a living. How does his work and his creativity affect his life?
7. How did reading this memoir in comics form (rather than as prose or poetry) affect your experience of the author's story?
8. Do you find Jim Terry's experience relatable? Why or why not?
9. Jim Terry's black-and-white artwork is in a style reminiscent of independent comics like Love and Rockets (the Hernandez Brothers) and Ghost World (Dan Clowes). Do you think this art fits well with the story? How would your perception of the story be different if the art was more reminiscent of manga or superhero comics?

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