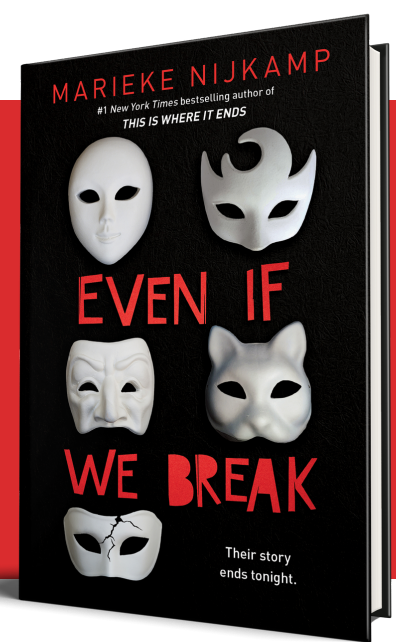


EVEN IF WE BREAK

MARIEKE NIJKAMP

DISCUSSION GUIDE



ABOUT THE BOOK

For five friends, this was supposed to be one last getaway before going their separate ways—a chance to say goodbye to each other, and to the game they’ve been playing for the past three years. But they’re all dealing with their own demons, and they’re all hiding secrets.

Finn doesn’t trust anyone since he was attacked a few months ago. Popular girl Liva saw it happen and did nothing to stop it. Maddy was in an accident that destroyed her sports career. Carter is drowning under the weight of his family’s expectations. Ever wants to keep the game going for as long as they can, at all costs.

When the lines between game and reality start to blend with deadly consequences, it’s a race against time before it’s game over—forever.

Are you ready to play?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

MARIEKE NIJKAMP is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *This Is Where it Ends* and *Before I Let Go*. She is a storyteller, dreamer, globe-trotter, geek. She holds degrees in philosophy, history, and medieval studies, has served as an executive member of We Need Diverse Books, and is the founder of DiversifYA. She lives in the Netherlands. Visit her at mariekenijkamp.com.

PRAISE FOR EVEN IF WE BREAK

“The darkly twisted ode to self-discovery briskly whisks an intersectionally inclusive group through a reasonably stormy, emotionally charged scenario that considers the sometimes-steep price of growing up and growing apart.” —*Publishers Weekly*

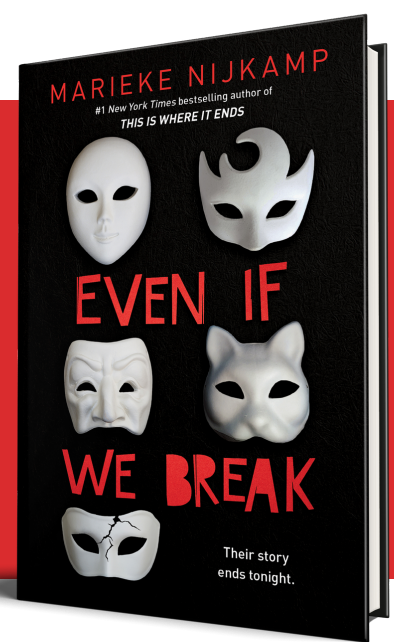
“Worthy of a horror movie... A thriller with appeal for a variety of readers.” —*School Library Journal*

“Immersive and captivating. From its well-drawn characters to their twisty game-turned-crime scene, *Even If We Break* is thrilling in every sense of the word.” —Karen McManus, #1 *New York Times* Bestselling Author

EVEN IF WE BREAK

MARIEKE NIJKAMP

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



1. How does each character deal with their own personal issues? How does their decisions drive how they interact with the others in the cabin?
2. Secrets play a big part in this book. How does each secret fissure their friend group? How do the characters react to their friends' secrets? Was there any place in the book where a revealed secret could have saved someone?
3. How does the ghost story about Lonely Peak influence how everyone reacts to their situation?
4. What was the significance of the wooden carvings and cut off fingers? How did the murderer use the ghost story about Lonely peak to their advantage?
5. How do their role-play characters parallel their real selves? How has the game leaked into their real lives?
6. How are the terrors in the house targeting each character's fears and secrets?
7. If you went to a cabin in the middle of the woods with your friends, what kind of games would you play?
8. When and why do the characters decide to fight back against the big bad? If you were in this situation, what would you do? Face the big bad head on, or run away?
9. What was the killer's motive for murder? Did you guess the murderer correctly or were your surprised at the end of the book?
10. How do you think the events of this book will go on to influence the character's lives? Do you see them struggling? Leaning on each other for support? Separating?