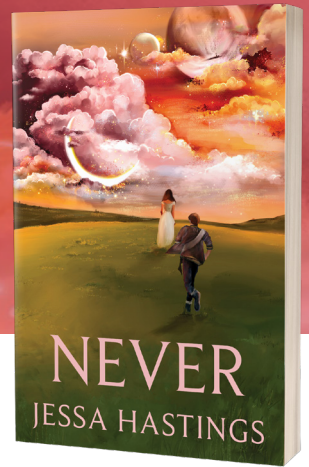


# NEVER

## DISCUSSION GUIDE



1. The novel uses many of the same characters, places, and themes of the original *Peter Pan* story but with new twists, particularly in how we see new generations of familiar characters (Wendy versus Daphne, James Hook versus Jamison Hook) and an aged-up Peter. How do these changes separate this Neverland from the original? How does the tone of this story differ?
2. Daphne makes use of the “bag check” several times when she wants to forget her troubles. Did she cross the line between using and abusing the baggage area? Would having a place to “drop off” your bad memories ultimately be a good thing or a bad thing?
3. *Never* has primary themes of destiny and fate—specifically the idea of following destiny versus following your heart. How does Daphne grapple with this choice? Do you believe in fate or destiny, and would you ever choose something that felt “fated” over what you actually wanted?
4. How does Daphne and Jamison’s hot-and-cold relationship develop during the novel? What caused the moments they seemed to go backward instead of forward in understanding each other, and how did they overcome—or not overcome—these issues?
5. Daphne mentions several times a secret darkness she sees within Peter Pan. How does he show that darkness over the course of the story, both explicitly and implicitly? What foreshadowing might the author be giving for the rest of the series?
6. In what ways do Peter and Jamison deceive and/or hurt Daphne as she opens her heart to them? Who hurts her the most, and is it ever okay to lie to someone or push them away to protect their feelings?
7. Time (and the perception of time) is a theme shown with Neverland’s geographical seasons, Daphne’s loose grip on how long she’s been with Peter, and the claim that “Never really is such an awfully long time.” How does time affect the way Daphne’s relationships develop? Does the way time is skewed in Neverland change how she might otherwise feel about the island?
8. As she learns more about Neverland’s history, Daphne questions whether Peter or Jamison is the “true heir” of the island. What evidence is there for both sides?
9. What is the final straw for Daphne in deciding to leave Peter’s tree? Why weren’t his earlier actions enough for her to consider leaving?
10. The idea of “growing up,” both physically and emotionally, is very present in the story. The youthful Peter Pan finally becomes an adult, and Daphne turning eighteen is a significant moment. Do people “grow up” with time or with experience? How does the novel explore both options?