



August 30 - September 13, 2023

Book club discussion guide

1. *Hotline* highlights the challenges of immigration. How does the promise of a better life in Canada get subverted in the novel?
2. Early in the novel, Muna tells her clients her name is Mona. Why do you think she does this?
3. At different points in the novel, Muna “talks” to her missing husband Halim. What is the effect of these scenes on the reader? On Muna?
4. What role does memory and imagination play throughout the novel?
5. Most of the novel takes place during the winter months in Montreal. How does Muna cope with the weather? How do the elements (winter cold, the approaching spring) echo the trajectory of the narrative?
6. While working to adapt to her new life in Montreal, who are the people that are most kind and helpful to Muna and Omar?
7. Why does Muna look up to Lise Carbonneau?
8. At the end of the novel, when Muna signs her lease, why do you think she writes the name that she does?
9. The novel is written exclusively from Muna’s point of view. What impact does this have on the reader? Why do you think the author chose to write the story this way?