



Mom Camp

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

A debut collection of interconnected fiction that delivers a frothy, philosophical take on modern female archetypes. Warm and funny and often surprising, the stories in *Mom Camp* reposition selfhood as rooted in relationship and explore what it means to be the narrator of your own life.

01

The book is divided into six sections: mother, sister, friend, server, lover, and artist. Can you relate to these classifiers, and does doing so feel clarifying or confining?

02

What do the women in the collection want, and how do they each go about pursuing it?

03

Do you see *Mom Camp* as a book of interconnected short stories or an experimental novel? Why might it matter?

04

What are the book's central questions and themes? How do the sections—the Hotel and Retreat throughlines, the stories, and the one novella—support and subvert these?

05

How does the concept of “Mom Camp” act as a symbolic container for the collection?

06

What does the box in “by Seabird” represent? What does each woman believe, before the box is opened, and what do they understand once it is? Who is Seabird?

07

In which ways are the themes of art and friendship from “by Seabird” present throughout the collection?

08

How does the book portray the tension between who the women have been and who they are? Did any character's journey resonate with you personally?

09

How does the book play with perspective, memory, or storytelling to explore the idea of narrating your own life? Do you think we have control over our own narratives?

10

Does *Mom Camp* remind you of other writers or books? The acknowledgements say this “book is made from other books”: how do you think that might work?

