



# TWO OR THREE THINGS I FORGOT TO TELL YOU

JOYCE CAROL OATES

## ABOUT THE BOOK

Senior year, their last year together, Merissa and Nadia need their friend Tink more than ever before. They each have secrets they could share with no one but her, secrets that have become toxic and that threaten to unravel their friendship—and themselves. Tink had a secret, too, but no one knows what it was. And now she's gone.

Then, the girls hear Tink whispering to them. Sometimes, the girls feel Tink trying to tell them something. . . .

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When Merissa is accepted at Brown, she worries that her friends will be jealous, “for it is not nearly so easy to be happy for your closest friend’s good news as it is to (secretly) rejoice in your closest friend’s bad news” (p. 3). How do you deal with jealousy between you and your friends?
2. Why do you think Merissa has so little respect for her mother? Do you think Merissa has more respect for her by the end of the book?
3. Before Tink’s death, Hannah says, “I wish there was something we could do to make Tink like herself better” (p. 151). How would you help a friend who wouldn’t, or couldn’t, tell you what was wrong?
4. When Nadia is being bullied in person and online, Hannah and Chloe try to convince her to report Colin and his friends. Could they do more to help? Should they?
5. Nadia believes that the wildcat she sees by the river is a manifestation of Tink’s spirit, while Merissa sees Tink as the ghost of a girl. Why do you think their experiences are different? Is Tink speaking to them, or are they just imagining what she would say?
6. Tink resists attempts to define her photographs of the night sky, telling the local newspaper that “a photograph is like a poem—there should be different interpretations” (p. 153). Do you agree with Tink’s view of art? Why or why not?
7. Merissa claims she dropped out of the school play because she doesn’t respect the character of Elizabeth Bennet. Do you believe her? Why do you think she hates *Pride and Prejudice*?
8. On the night of her death, Tink sends the Tink, Inc., girls a text message: “Hey guys, guess I won’t be seeing you for a while. Love you guys but feeling kinda burnt out. NBD. Tink” (p. 70). Why do you think Tink sent that message?
9. Nadia and Merissa don’t even want to think the word “death” as it relates to Tink. How do you deal with loss? Do you think Nadia and Merissa have come to terms with Tink’s death by the end of the book?



Book  
Club  
Pick!