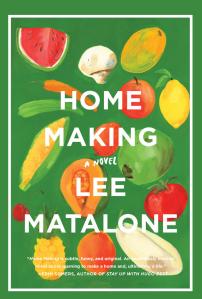
## HOME MAKING by LEE MATALONE

## **Reading Group Guide**

## USE THESE QUESTIONS TO GUIDE YOUR BOOK CLUB'S DISCUSSION

- 1. Chloe spends much of the novel in her own head, even going so far as to imagine whole conversations. What do you think these dialogues tell us about her?
- 2. Beau thinks of him and Chloe as "Bonnie and Clyde," as "troublemakers, outlaws." What do you think he means by this? How would you describe their relationship?
- 3. Discuss the role of secrets in the narrative and how they affect these characters? Do you think any of these secrets are more justified than others?
- 4. Many chapters are named after the rooms in Chloe's new house and we see quite a bit of architecture and design theory. Which of these spaces seem most meaningful to her, and why?
- 5. The novel opens and closes with chapters that move swiftly through time and place. How can you account for this stylistic difference? What do these shifts in perspective signify?
- 6. Cybil is adopted from Japan and raised in Arizona. How do you think her upbringing informs the way she interacts with Chloe? Do you think their mother/daughter relationship changes over the course of the novel? Why or why not?
- 7. Beau maintains a deeply intimate friendship with Chloe and yet he keeps his romantic life at a considerable distance. Do you think he has a future with Tyler? How do you think technology has impacted modern love?
- 8. Discuss the last scene between Chloe and Pat. What do you think Chloe has learned from their separation?
- 9. Louisiana plays a vivid role in the narrative from Beau's rural childhood to Ru's sexual awakening in New Orleans. Why do you think Chloe chose this place, in the end, as her home?
- 10. Is this portrayal of a blended or a chosen family a hopeful one? How do you think our ideas surrounding family will change in the next decade?



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