## READING GROUP GUIDE

## LEETA SIMTAR A LIFE ON TWO PLANETS

Thank you for choosing **Leeta Simtar: A Life on Two Planets** as your book club selection.

This reader's guide includes suggested questions intended to help your group find interesting angles and topics for discussion. I hope these ideas enrich your conversation and increase your enjoyment of my novel.

In friendship,







## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1. In the graduation ceremony, Brids are segregated from Reals, yet everyone chants the same traditional words: One Mind, One Goal, One Family. How does this contrast between words and social norms influence Leeta's behavior during the ceremony and afterwards?
- 2. Because Leeta has never felt at home on her home planet, she goes looking for a new home. What does the word home mean to you?
- 3. How does Zertee's logical thinking and compliance with Furean societal rules influence her friendship with Leeta? In what ways does Leeta's spontaneity and highly emotional temperament impact Zertee?



- 4. Leeta feels attached to her collection of treasures and they provide her with great comfort. What might these objects mean to her at this point in the story? Do you have objects that you feel a particular attachment to?
- 5. Family is a central theme in this novel, comparing the levels of love, support, and connection one may receive from biological family and/or found family. Ultimately how does Leeta define family? How do you define family for yourself?
- 6. In what ways does Sid prove himself to be Leeta's friend? In what ways does she show herself to be someone he can trust?
- 7. As a stranger in a strange land, Leeta Simtar experiences many ups and downs on Earth. What are some of her most confusing experiences? Most heart-warming? Most frightening? Most delightful? Where have you most felt like a stranger in a strange land? How did you navigate the experience?
- 8. A painting helps Leeta discover her origin story. Painting also serves as a means of story-telling and therapy for Liam Rutherford. In what ways do you express yourself creatively?
- 9. This is a story about all kinds of love—romantic love, parental love, love of friends. What ultimately ends up damaging the relationship between the Daht and Leeta?
- 10. What did you think of the choices Leeta and Liam each make at the end of the novel? How did their choices contribute to their character arcs?
- 11. The author included an Afterword with story updates for each of the characters. Did you find these updates satisfying? What additional information would you have liked to learn about the characters?
- 12. Unlike most novels, this one has a glossary to explain Furean terms and expressions. Did you find it helpful? Unnecessary?

**Bonus Activity:** Leeta's favorite food is fried onion rings. Try this <u>recipe</u> (with or without ketchup!). eatingonadime.com/deep-fried-onion-rings/







