

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS— FACILITATOR VERSION

Believe each ge'e al e i / a e am le m me' i / each b k ha ca' hel f he he di c i / f ha b k. The e gge i / a e fa f me e hi' g c ld alk ab i / each b k, i' g ea if b k cl b b i' g me hi' g all di e e' , a' d feel f ee add he a e a e f e i / .

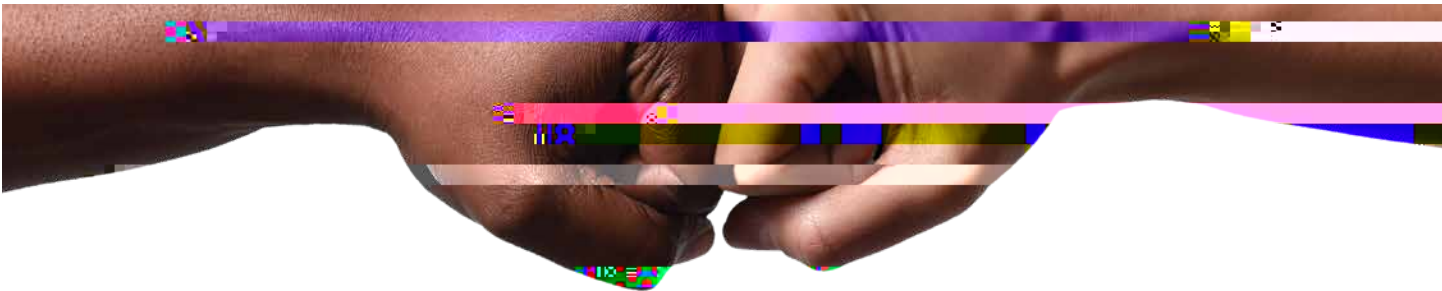
I / ge' e al, e e' c age em e b k cl b membe be he ima ice i / c / e a i / . S me a ache ge i' g h-led di c i / g i' g i' cl de:

S a i' g b a ki' g f ge' e al eac i / he eadi' g a' d leadi' g f mem i / al e e / e ich m me' i / he e ha e eal m e ab aciali ed hi ie a' d e e e i' ce i / he US he' / ack hem;

A ki' g he g ickl b ai' ma ma' a' e a di c i / e i / a ible ( , i' a m li a e i / , j he e i / ), i e he a' e d / he e e e / e ca' ee hem, he' dig i' each idea i' / ;

Q ie i' di id al f ee i' g ha gi e e e / e he ame am / f ime hi' k ( all 5 10 mi' e ) a' d c llec hei h gh bef e l / ee i' g hei idea . F g he e' e e / e ha ead he e , eadi' g / e ec i / l d a' d i' g ab ha ca' be hel f l.

Pa ici a' -led di c i / h ld hel h ee hem e l e a he hi ca ed hi' ke a' d be e f cie a' d c l e ha he a e . T facili a e hi , ca' c / i e' l b ild / ha he a h gh he c / e a i / h gh e' c age me' like I / e e i' g , a m e ! , e i / like h ? a' d ca' ell he e ha ha e' i' he b k ? , a' d maki' g c / / ec i / be ee' h e e / e ( I l e ha . Ca' a' / e hi' k f a' he e am le f ha Ja' e j alked ab ? ) . Y ma al be able ea e he e am le bel i' he di c i / ead a ele a' a age f m / e f hem l d j m - a a di c i / .



## GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. **Is there something that happens in this book that reminds you of how race works in the United States today?** What is it? Do you think race plays a role in the lives of the characters? Why or why not?

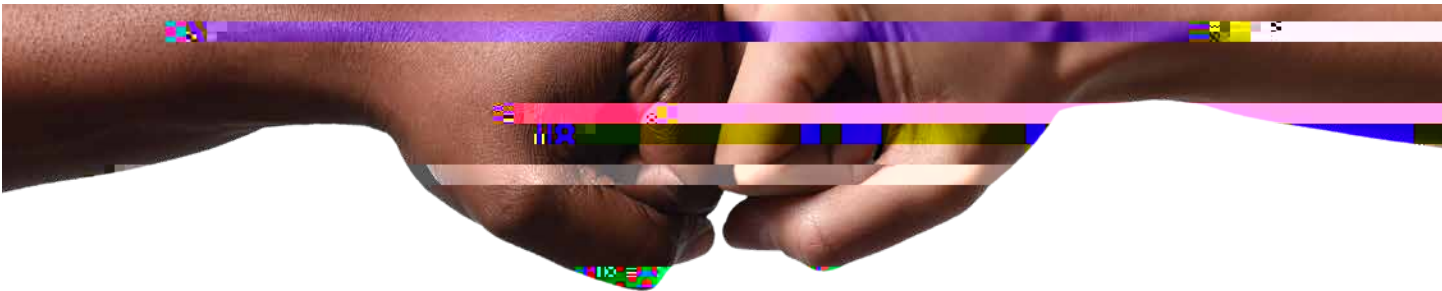
<i>Between the World and Me</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>White people are fighting back against Black people more often than in the past (94-5)</li> <li>The fight against Black people is still going on (112-13); People are still being killed (112-13)</li> </ul>
<i>Dreaming in Indian</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indian identity is a complex issue (30-1)</li> <li>See the media's role in the process (43)</li> <li>Realizing the role of the media (50-3)</li> </ul>
<i>Mother of the Sea</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slavery and migration, especially for women</li> </ul>
<i>Revolution of Evelyn Serrano</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People are afraid of change, especially in the community (104)</li> <li>People are afraid of change, especially in the community (109-10)</li> <li>People are afraid of change, especially in the community (114-5);</li> <li>People are afraid of change, especially in the community (152, 185-6)</li> </ul>
<i>Always Running</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immigrants (Luis's Mama) are still being treated poorly (19)</li> <li>White people are still in power (67)</li> <li>People are still being treated poorly (Miguel R. Blewett, 201-2, Luis's definition of Lucha 226-7)</li> </ul>



2. Pick a moment when a character in this book uses information about the past to find a way forward. How does understanding the history of their family, community, or racial/ethnic group help this character decide how they want to shape their future? Do you think history always helps people decide? How do you think history helps people decide?

<i>Between the World and Me</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Malcolm X (34-6)</li> <li>- Black history (43-8)</li> </ul>





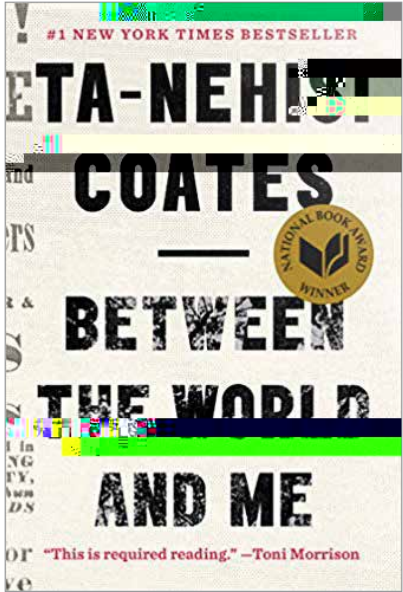
**BOOK 1: *Between the World and Me***

4. Why do you think that this book takes on the big, historically complicated question of racism against Black Americans in the form of a letter from a father to his son? How do these choices make you think about the author's place in America?

5. What do you think Coates means when he says that race – and especially whiteness—is a “modern invention” (7)? How could whiteness be created, as Coates suggests, through acts of violence against Black and other people of color (8, 103)? Can we ever truly escape the racial identities we are born into?

6. While growing up in a predominantly white household of one woman (58-61) change how he thinks about Blackness, love, and what it means to be a hero? And how does he face discrimination in a multiracial household? If you were in his shoes, how would you feel about the racial identities you are born into?

7. When Coates arrived in the US for the first time in his 30s, he called the experience “Eli” (121). What makes Eli like a journey? Can we ever truly escape the racial histories associated with our identities? Why or why not?

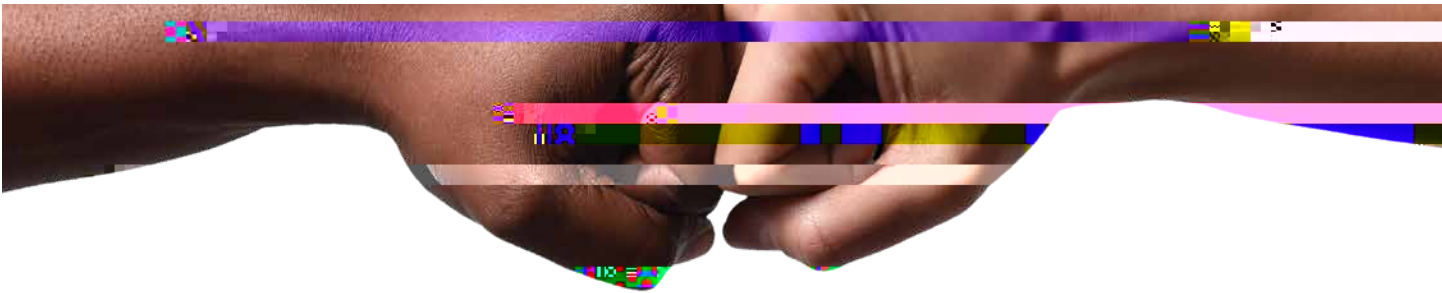




**BOOK 2:**

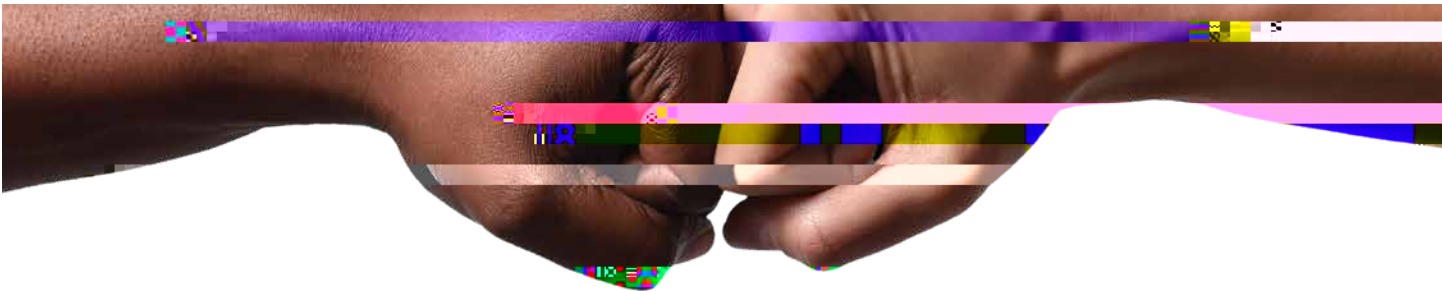
***Dreaming in Indian: Contemporary Native American Voice***

4. This collection is called *Dreaming in Indian*, by which I include contributions from diverse First Nations and Indigenous peoples across what we call North America (for example, see contributions 124-5). **What kinds of experiences do many of the diverse individuals in this volume seem to share? What sets them apart from one another? Why do you think it is important to many Native**



**BOOK 3: *Mother of the Sea***

- 4. Ze a Elli call *Mother of the Sea* a me maid . **Who do you think are the mermaids in this book?** (Yem ja, 45-6, a' d he da gh e Eja-keke, \_li le h , e ha Ad ke a he e' d.) **How are they di erent from or similar to the mainstream images of mermaids that you have seen before?** Wha d hi' k f Elli ' ch ice c mbi' e a me maid i h a ale ab e' la. ed Af ica' c i' g he A la' ic?
- 5.

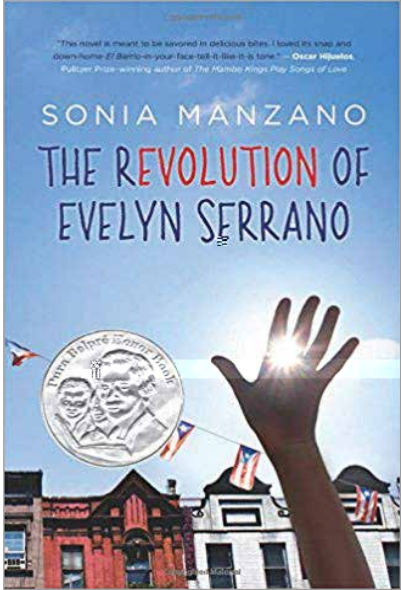


**BOOK 4: The Revolution of Evelyn Serrano**

4. After the election, Evelyn decides that she will go back to her home, Puerto Rico, and she will be called Evelyn Serrano. **Why do you think she wants to seem less Puerto Rican at first? But then she decides to go back to Puerto Rico. What changes in her thinking to make her embrace her “Puerto Rican-sounding” name?**

5. Maria and her friends are afraid of the Young Lords because they are a gang. **What about the Young Lords might make them seem like a gang? Why are these qualities frightening? What makes the Young Lords different from a gang? If they are a gang, how do you think they will treat them and their friends?**

6. One of the things Evelyn learned from her Aunt Abela is that she should be a good person because she is Puerto Rican (78-80; 86-9, 138). However, Evelyn always wanted to be a doctor because she wanted to help people. She decided to become a doctor because she wanted to help people. She decided to become a doctor because she wanted to help people. **What is more important in your life, big-picture change or caring for the people closest to you? Is it possible to have one without the other?**







**BOOK 5: *Al a R nning: La Vida L ca: Gang Da in L.A.***

- 4. Thi b k de cibe i le' ce be ee' La i' a' d hi e h (he T adi i / ), he Hi • a' ic c mm / i a' d he • lice f ce, a' d i hi / • c mm / i ie . **While the first two kinds of clashes are more obviously inspired by race and inequality, do you think that the violence within Latinx communities is, as well? Why or why not?**

