BOOKCLUB KITS

THIS KIT CONTAINS

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: IT ENDS WITH US BY COLLEEN HOOVER

- The first time Lily and Ryle meet, they start telling each other naked truths. Do you agree that sometimes it's easier to be completely honest with someone you've just met? Why (or why don't) you think that is?
- 2) Lily mentions she wants to open her store now while she is still young enough to "get over failure." Is failure actually something easier when you are young? Why or why not?
- 3) One of Ryle and Lily's early interactions was when he knocked on 29 doors in her building to find her. How did this strike you? Was it romantic? Explain.
- 4) Building on the previous question, how do you think framing changes how we view an interaction in literature? Oftentimes, book characters do something that in a novel is romantic, but that if they did in real life would have someone consider filing a restraining order. Why does literature often feel different when it comes to romance vs real life?
- 5) One very influential character in the book is Ryle's sister and Lily's best friend, Allysa. How do you think having a character who has loyalty to both of the protagonists changes the tone of the book?
- 6) Lily's experiences with Atlas in high school are described as being very formative. Besides their friendship, she realizes from a young age that anyone can end up falling on hard times. How do think that message fits into the larger themes of the book?
- The first time Ryle pushes her, Lily is able to rationalize it away, even though she had previously sworn she would never, ever do that. How would you have felt in the moment?
- 8) "It's easy when we're on the outside to believe that we would walk away without a second thought if a person mistreated us. It's easy to say we couldn't continue to love someone who mistreats us when we aren't the ones feeling the love of that person. When you experience it firsthand, it isn't so easy to hate the person who mistreats you when most of the time they're your godsend." How does this quote strike you? Does it resonate with you, make you angry, make you think? Why?
- When you learn of Ryle's childhood trauma with his brother who dies, does it change anything for how you feel about Ryle's character? What do you think Hoover was trying to do with this particular backstory? How does this quote strike you?

When Lily realizes she is pregnant, it changes a lot of things for her. It is also ultimately why she decides to divorce Ryle. Why do you think it is that so often things that we will put up with for ourselves, we consider unacceptable for our loved ones? What do you think Hoover wanted to highlight with this reality in the novel?