ONCE WE WERE SLAVES

The Extraordinary Journey of a Multiracial Jewish Family



- 1. For the person who chose this book: What made you want to read it? What made you suggest it to the group for discussion? Did it live up to your expectations?
- 2. What did you like or dislike about this book?
- 3. What did you know about the subject prior to reading this book? If you knew of the subject before, did anything you read change your opinion?
- 4. What new information did you learn about Jews in early America or multiracial Jews?
- 5. How did race and racism impact Sarah and Isaac's lives?
- 6. How did Sarah and Isaac's lives compare to those of other multiracial Jews in the book?
- 7. What did you learn about the time period in which the book is set that you did not previously know? Discuss the time period in history that each person in the group enjoys reading about most, and why.
- 8. Has reading this book inspired you to do further research on the subject and the time period discussed?
- 9. What did you find the most surprising in this book?
- 10. What were Sarah and Isaac's most admirable qualities? Are they someone you would want to know or have known?
- 11. If you could go back in time and ask Sarah or Isaac any question, what would you ask?
- 12. Does this book remind you of any others you have read for this group?
- 13. What changes/decisions would you hope for if the book were turned into a movie?
- 14. Why do you think the author wrote this book? What was her biggest theme or message?
- 15. Did you like the book's ending?
- 16. Did you have any questions for the author?