

• THE GIRLY BOOK CLUB •
THE GREAT BELIEVERS
BY REBECCA MAKKAI

1. Did you enjoy this book? Rate it out of 5.
2. How has the culture changed regarding LGBTQ+ voices and stories since the 1980s?
3. Chicago is such a powerful presence in this novel that it is almost a character in itself. Have you ever been to or lived in a place that exerted a strong influence on you?
4. Fiona has suffered many losses in her life. How do you think that affected her as a mother? What are the ways in which trauma and loss are passed down through generations?
5. Do you empathize more with Fiona or Claire?
6. Charlie hurt Yale very deeply - but considering the situation did you expect him to forgive him sooner? Do you think he ever did?
7. Where you surprised when Julian re-appeared in Paris?
8. Discuss Nora's decision to leave her art collection to Yale's gallery. Was her family right in being upset?
9. The book has been options as a film - who would you envision playing Yale and/or Fiona in the movie?
11. Yale's group of friends is very close. In a sense, they are his "chosen family." How does each character relate to their family, biological and chosen? Do you have a "chosen family," and if so, what brings you all together?