

• THE GIRLY BOOK CLUB •
MY SISTER, THE SERIAL KILLER
BY OYINKAN BRAITHWAITE

1. Did you enjoy this book? Rate it out of 5.
2. Why does Korede cover up for her sister, to protect her? What are the justifications she uses to convince herself that Ayoola isn't a serial killer or a monster? Given the sisters' closeness, what would you do in Korede's place?
3. Why does Ayoola kill? Korede wonders whether the knife she carries has somehow cursed her with a violent streak. Is Ayoola cursed? Does she carry the knife for self-defense, as she claims, to protect her against the men to hurt her? Or are Ayoola's murders a product of something else entirely?
4. The girls' father was a violent man—it's his knife Ayoola carries. How might the knife stand as a symbol of the girls' family legacy of abuse and violence?
5. What are the family dynamics? To what extent have the girls' parents shaped their daughters' different behaviors?
6. In the book menace and corruption permeate Lagos, discuss how these may impact your own society.
7. Consider the incident when the policeman bribes a frightened Korede; she knows that "Educated women anger men of his ilk." How would you describe the place of women in society globally? Is it changing?
8. What was your overall experience reading *My Sister, the Serial Killer*? The book is considered by most critics/reviewers as "darkly humorous." Do you find it funny; if so, where do you find the humor?
9. Korede, who lacks the beauty her sister possesses, believes that "love is only for the beautiful." What does the novel suggest about the power of beauty: the privileges and authority it commands, both on a personal level and in the wider society? How do you see the role of beauty in real life—our lives, our society?
10. How would you describe Korede? As she tells us, "There never seemed to be much point in masking my imperfections. It's as futile as using air freshener when you leave the toilet." What does this comment suggest about Korede's self-identity: her sense of herself and her place in the world?
11. One of Ayoola's boyfriends challenges Korede about her sister: "There's something wrong with her, he says. "But you? What's your excuse?" What specifically prompts his query? And how does, or how should, Korede respond?