

## PINGEL SISTERS BOOK CLUB

# *The Fifth Season* by N. K. Jemisin

### Discussion Questions

#### **RATING**

Did you like *The Fifth Season*? Why or why not? Please be specific about what made you like it or dislike it?

#### **GENRE**

Do you like to read fantasy or is it a genre you usually pass over? How did you feel about the world-building aspect of the novel? Did it draw you in or turn you off?

#### **WRITING STYLE**

What are your thoughts on the author's use of the second person during Essun's story? Why do you think she addressed the reader as "you," and did you appreciate her unique technique or find it distracting?

#### **PLOT**

Were you surprised to find out Essun, Syenite, and Damaya were all the same person? Does knowing that fact affect how you view the different storylines?

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### **THEMES**

During the story, Alabaster proclaims a desire to wipe the slate clean and start the world all over. Do you think the current society was irredeemable or was Alabaster's anger clouding his judgement?

### **READ WITH INTENTION**

In the narrative, the whole culture of The Stillness is structured around the concept of ensuring civilization survives a fifth season, yet many are caught unprepared thinking it would never happen in their lifetime. What parallels can you draw to your own life in our modern day?

### **SERIES**

Will you read the second book in the series? What do you hope to learn more about in the next book?

### **RESEARCH**

Each month when we announce our book club pick, we also mention the next month's pick. How far in advance do you want to know about future picks? Is one month enough, or would you prefer two months notice?