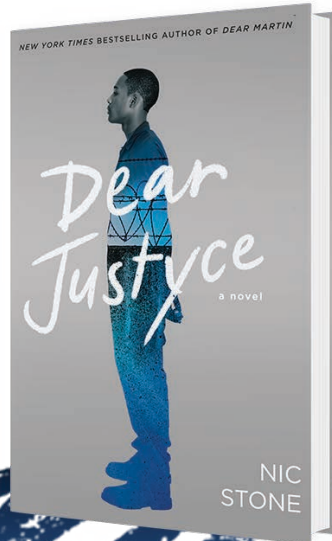
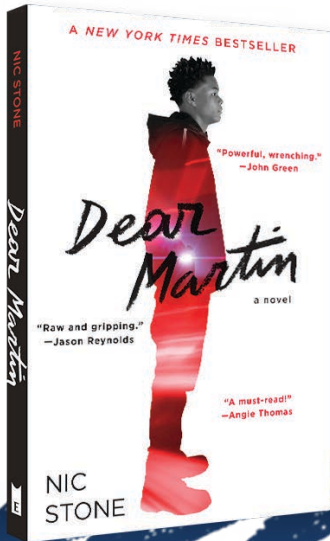


Dear Justyce

DISCUSSION GUIDE



**THE STUNNING SEQUEL TO THE
#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER DEAR MARTIN.**

INCARCERATED TEEN QUAN WRITES LETTERS TO
JUSTYCE ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCES IN THE AMERICAN
JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM.

1. To borrow a prompt from Doc: How is the United States “currently failing to uphold the standards set forth in its foundational documents”? (p. 40)
2. Quan asks Justyce, “Why’d we turn out so different?” (p. 43) What did you learn during this discussion between the two characters?
3. We are told that for Quan, “There was no not noticing the number of brown faces that came and stayed compared to the number of not-brown ones that came and left” (p. 80). How has this book made you think about the juvenile justice system and school-to-prison pipeline?
4. Martel wrote “Black Power is giving power to people who have not had power to determine their destiny” (p. 89). Break down this quote, does it have multiple meanings throughout the novel?
5. Why does Quan join the Black Jihad? More broadly, why do you think young people join gangs?
6. Analyze the symbolism of the rocket ship and its significance in the novel.
7. To borrow another prompt from Doc: “Write a compelling argumentative essay that either supports or refutes the continued use of Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird* as a seminal text on American racism” (p. 132). Use this as a jumping off point for a larger conversation.
8. Quan says, “Everyone should have somebody who believes in ’em. Like no matter what they’ve done. Somebody who won’t give up on them. . . . No strings attached” (p. 226). How do you feel about this statement? Who do you believe in? Who believes in you?

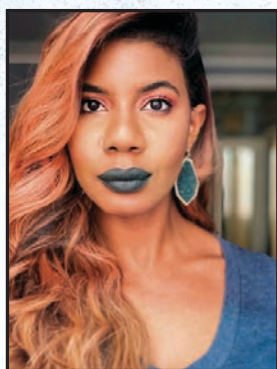
9. What connections can you make between *Dear Martin*, *Dear Justyce*, and other books you may have read such as *The Hate U Give*, *All American Boys*, or *Monster*?
10. Supplement your discussion by choosing and analyzing a podcast, music, film, documentary, TED Talk, or anything else that examines one of the key themes from *Dear Martin* or *Dear Justyce*, such as activism, identity, privilege, racism, or implicit bias.

This readers guide has been adapted from the classroom unit by Dr. Jarred Amato, cofounder of Project LIT.

Learn more @[projectLITcomm](#)  

Feeling inspired? Check out these resources and organizations to learn about more ways that you can make a difference in your community:

- **Free Minds Book Club**
freemindsbookclub.org/
- **HeadCount**
headcount.org/
- **The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation**
mellon.org/news-blog/articles/books-and-new-focus-mellon-foundation-foster-social-equity/
- **The Equal Justice Initiative**
eji.org
- **Vote Save America**
votesaveamerica.com/



Nic Stone is an Atlanta native and a Spelman College graduate. After working extensively in teen mentoring and living in Israel for several years, she returned to the United States to write fulltime. Nic's debut novel for young adults, *Dear Martin*, was a #1 *New York Times* bestseller and William C. Morris Award finalist. She is also the author of *Odd One Out*, a novel about discovering oneself and who it is okay to love, which was

an NPR Best Book of the Year and a Rainbow Book List Top Ten selection, and *Jackpot*, a love-ish story that takes a searing look at economic inequality which was a *Seventeen* and *Paste* Best YA Novel of the Year. The *New York Times* bestseller *Clean Getaway*, Nic's first middle-grade novel, deals with coming to grips with the pain of the past and facing the humanity of our heroes. She lives in Atlanta with her adorable little family.

Find her online at nicstone.info or on Instagram @[@nicstone](https://www.instagram.com/nicstone)

AVAILABLE WHEREVER BOOKS ARE SOLD!

