

Discussion Guide: *The Color of Sound*

1. Seeing colors is one of the ways Rosie interprets sound. What are some moments in the story where the colors stood out to you? How did Rosie feel? How did you feel?
2. Rosie takes a break from playing the violin partly because she's tired of it defining her identity. What other activities and interests does she discover over the course of the summer?
3. What draws Rosie to Shanna even before she realizes Shanna is her mom? What do you think makes Shanna want to befriend Rosie?
4. What do Grandpa Jack and Rosie's daily routines mean for them? How does their relationship change over the course of the story?
5. Throughout the book, Rosie observes Mia's improv class. What does she notice while watching the students perform and interact? How is this different from the environments where Rosie is used to spending time?
6. After seeing her swim, Rosie's dad thinks she should pursue it competitively. Why does this hurt her?
7. How was Rosie's great-grandmother Dahlia affected by her experiences during the Holocaust? How did that trauma affect her daughter, Grandma Florence? What were its ripple effects for later generations of the family?
8. How does Rosie feel when she finally plays the song from Hungary for Grandma Florence? What does she realize about herself and her relationship to music?
9. Rosie hasn't been reliably present, physically or emotionally, to support Julianne during their friendship. How do she and Julianne move past the ways Rosie hurt Julianne? When you want to make amends for hurting someone, what do you do?
10. What does Rosie learn about her mother over the course of the novel? What does Rosie learn about herself?