

**Book Club Questions for
The Starfish Sisters by Barbara O'Neal**

1. Phoebe and Suze's friendship is described as being "closer than sisters." How does their friendship evolve throughout the book, and what challenges do they face?
2. The story alternates between the past and the present. How does this dual timeline narrative enhance your understanding of Phoebe and Suze's relationship?
3. Beryl plays a significant role in both Phoebe and Suze's lives. How does her presence shape the story, and how do her actions impact the characters?
4. Phoebe's granddaughter, Jasmine, is preparing to move to London. How does Jasmine's impending departure affect Phoebe, and what does it symbolize in the larger context of the story?
5. The book touches on themes of forgiveness, love, and grace. In what ways do these themes manifest in the lives of the characters, particularly Phoebe and Suze?
6. Suze's abusive relationship with her father is a central part of her backstory. How do you think this traumatic experience shaped her as a person and influenced her choices in life?
7. Phoebe's career as an illustrator and fabric designer is an integral part of her character. How does her creativity and artistic expression impact the story?
8. Suze's fame as an actress is a significant aspect of her life. How does celebrity status affect her relationships and the challenges she faces?
9. Letters and diary entries play a role in the narrative. How do these written records provide insights into the characters' inner thoughts and emotions?
10. The book explores the Oregon coastal setting. How does the author's vivid description of the landscape enhance the story's atmosphere and mood?

11. Phoebe and Suze both have romantic interests in their lives. How do these relationships contribute to their personal growth and the overall plot?
12. The book mentions the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. How does the pandemic affect the characters and their interactions?
13. The story touches on themes of friendship, sisterhood, and the enduring bonds between women. How do these themes resonate with your own experiences or beliefs?
14. Were you satisfied with the resolution of Phoebe and Suze's relationship? Did you feel it was a realistic portrayal of forgiveness and reconciliation?
15. The title of the book, "The Starfish Sisters," is a reference to the coastal landscape. How does the symbolism of the starfish relate to the themes and characters in the story?