Book Club Questions for

Maybe Next Time by Cesca Major

- 1. What were your initial thoughts and feelings about Emma as a protagonist? Were you able to relate to her character, especially in her juggling act between work, family, and other responsibilities?
- 2. How did you feel about the use of the time loop concept in the story? Do you think it added depth to the narrative, and how did it influence your understanding of the characters and their relationships?
- 3. Explore the dynamics of Emma and Dan's marriage. How did the anniversary letters provide insight into their relationship over the years? Were there moments that resonated with your own experiences in relationships?
- 4. Emma faces the challenges of being a working mother. How did the story portray the struggles of balancing work, parenting, and personal time? Discuss the impact of parenthood on Emma and Dan's relationship.
- 5. How did Emma's character evolve throughout the story? What lessons did she learn, and how did her priorities change as she relived the same day repeatedly?
- 6. Poppy, Emma's daughter, exhibits unusual behavior during the time loop. What do you think her behavior signifies, and how does it reflect the impact of Emma's actions on her children? Did you find Poppy's reactions realistic given the circumstances?
- 7. The book explores themes of love, loss, and self-discovery. How did these themes play out in the context of Emma's repeated experiences in the time loop? Discuss specific scenes or moments that highlighted these themes.
- 8. Miles, Emma's son, has a complex relationship with his mother. How did he cope with the repeated days, especially concerning his father's fate? Discuss specific scenes where Miles' reactions were particularly poignant or revealing.
- 9. Reflect on the importance of communication in relationships, both between partners and within families. How did miscommunication or lack of communication impact the characters' lives, and how did they learn to connect better?

- 10. Gus, the family dog, is a recurring presence in the story. How did Gus's behavior mirror the emotions and dynamics within the family? Do you think Gus symbolizes something more profound in the narrative?
- 11. Emma tries different approaches in each repeated day. Discuss the significance of her choices and the consequences they have on her family and herself. Were there choices you felt particularly impactful or poignant?
- 12. The story briefly touches on Emma's involvement in WhatsApp groups and social media. How do you think the prevalence of technology and social media affected Emma's life and relationships? Did it contribute to her sense of overwhelm?
- 13. Explore the roles of supporting characters such as Miles, Poppy, and Emma's friends. How did they contribute to the story's emotional depth, and how did they influence Emma's decisions?
- 14. The story has been described as a reflection on mindfulness, appreciation for life's small moments, and the importance of being present. How did reading this book affect your perspective on your own life and priorities? Did it make you consider making any changes?
- 15. "Maybe Next Time" is often compared to the movie Groundhog Day.
 Discuss the similarities and differences between the two and how the book uniquely approaches the time loop trope. Which elements did you find more compelling in this story?
- 16. Without giving away spoilers, discuss your thoughts on the book's ending. Did it provide the closure you were expecting? Were you satisfied with how the story concluded?
- 17. Share any favorite quotes or passages from the book that resonated with you and explain why they had an impact.