

# The House in the Cerulean Sea

Cut along the dashed lines and pass the cards around the table.

## WARM-UP

1

What was the first scene that made you smile or sigh contentedly while reading?

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## WARM-UP

2

If you could spend a quiet afternoon at the house on the island, what would you want to do first: nap in the sun, help in the garden, or sit with a cup of tea on the porch?

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## DISCUSSION

3

Linus's gray, rule-bound life slowly fills with color. When in your own life have you felt that kind of soft, gradual brightening?

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## DISCUSSION

4

Which of the children at the orphanage did you most want to hug, and what about them tugged at your heart?

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## DISCUSSION

5

Arthur's home feels like a refuge from a world that misunderstands its residents. What places (real or imagined) feel like that kind of refuge to you?

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## DISCUSSION

6

The book has a lot to say about prejudice spoken in polite voices. Were there moments that stung or comforted you because they felt familiar?

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## DEEP

7

Klune writes about chosen family with such tenderness. Who in your own life has felt like family in the way the island family feels to each other?

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## DEEP

8

By the end, the story gently asks what it means to be brave in small, daily ways. What act of quiet courage in the book stayed with you most?

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