

# Under Story

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

## WARM-UP

1

Laurel picks the far edge of the world as her hiding place. If you needed a quiet place to disappear for a while, where would you go, and what one comfort item would you bring?

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## WARM-UP

2

The book is set in a place that's cold, dark, and far from everything. What moment or image made you want to curl up tighter while you read, and where were you reading it?

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## DISCUSSION

3

Laurel chooses simple, steady work over the career she used to have. Have you ever found unexpected peace in a humble routine, and did her dishwashing days bring back any of your own memories?

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## DISCUSSION

4

The Arc seems almost alive to Laurel, and it holds her attention. When have you felt pulled toward something beautiful and unexplained, like a night sky, a landscape, or a strange coincidence, and how did it make you feel?

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## DISCUSSION

5

McMurdo is full of people who have ended up at the bottom of the world for their own reasons. What did the book make you feel about the little communities that form in isolated places, and have you ever belonged to one?

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## DISCUSSION

6

Laurel keeps her past a secret from the people around her. Did you feel protective of her, frustrated with her, or both? When has keeping something to yourself felt like shelter to you?

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## DEEP

7

Without giving away where things go, how did it feel to watch Laurel and Eli share the same small world again? Did the book change how you think about reconnecting with someone you once loved?

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## DEEP

8

By the last pages, did you feel the book was more about running away or about finding a way back? What feeling did it leave you with when you closed it, and has anything stayed with you since?

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