

BOOK CLUB KIT



A
ALGONQUIN

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- 1 How did you feel about the relationship between Jane and her mother?
- 2 Who do you think Jane feels closest to in her family and why?
- 3 How would you characterize Jane's perspective? How does the first-person narration affect your understanding of the story? What might she be leaving out in her account?
- 4 How does this novel contribute to your understanding of the immigrant experience?
- 5 Each of the characters in *American Han* has their own idea of the American Dream. What do each of their versions tell you about them and what they long for?
- 6 What do you think the author is saying about how Asian Americans are perceived in America? How does the novel challenge common assumptions about Asian Americans?
- 7 Had you ever heard of *han* before? What is your understanding of American *han* after reading this book?
- 8 If you played competitive sports or musical instruments or other competitive hobbies, how did you respond to the competition; did you find it motivating or demotivating?
- 9 Have you ever had a dream that you had to put on hold because of responsibilities? How did this make you feel?
- 10 If you have siblings, would you describe your relationship with them as a source of support or conflict? How has it evolved over the years?