Reading Group Guide for

Nobody Knows You're Here

by Bryn Greenwood

- 1. Statistics suggest that children who are trafficked are far more likely to be victimized by someone they know (Aiden's caseworker, Isabel's family friend, or the mother of the girl in foster care with Beatrice.) They are far less likely to be trafficked by a stranger, so why are we more likely to see stranger abductions depicted in media?
- 2. Similarly, data on trafficking reveals that the majority of victims are not trafficked for sexual purposes, but to compel them to perform uncompensated labor. Trafficking victims often end up performing domestic labor, such as childcare, or manual labor in agriculture and manufacturing. Why do you think we are so often served media that focuses on the sexual side of trafficking instead?
- 3. Beatrice refers to Aiden as a "human Magic 8 Ball," using his behavior as a predictor of what the day will be like. This is both magical thinking, but also a frequent habit of adult victims of child abuse. Where else do we see signs that Beatrice's upbringing has made her accustomed to this way of thinking? How does it connect to her understanding of what Stockholm Syndrome is?
- 4. As the story progresses, in what ways do we see Beatrice changing her behavior or outlook to more closely align with her captors? We all like to think we wouldn't succumb to an erosion of our beliefs, but what methods are being used to change Beatrice?
- 5. Isabel says that she made the best choice for Minu, after implying that if Minu had lived she would have been sexually trafficked. In online discussions I've seen many people say that "rape is worse than murder." Do you agree? Which would be preferable to you or

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- 6. When Aiden "breaks in" Beatrice, how much do you blame him for his part in her sexual assault? If we accept that he is under duress & Beatrice is going to be raped one way or another, is his involvement forgivable? Is he morally obligated to refuse even at the risk of his own safety? What about the risk to her safety if he refuses?
- 7. Why do They have Aiden break in Beatrice? On the surface it might make more sense to give that job to Gustav, but They have already established that Beatrice can be controlled with brute force. Most people can be. What kind of control are They establishing over Beatrice by having her broken in by Aiden? What control are They establishing over Aiden?
- 8. Throughout the book, characters' names change or are revealed. What effect do those name changes and revelations have on characters?
- 9. How do you feel about Beatrice choosing to have sex with Aiden later? Why do you think she makes that choice?
- 10. Aiden tells Beatrice to "do whatever you have to do to survive," and later he reassures her that killing Isabel and the goons "wasn't murder." To what degree is it justifiable to harm others if that allows us to survive? In what scenarios is killing someone justifiable?
- 11. At the end of the book, Beatrice chooses not just to forgive Aiden, but to welcome him into her life. How do you feel about her decision and the reasoning that motivates it?
- 12. Aiden's life was changed by *The Hotel New Hampshire*. Are there books that have changed your life?