

## Butter Honey Pig Bread Francesca Ekwuyasi

## **Discussion Questions**

- 1. Food and cooking play a big part in *Butter Honey Pig Bread*. What are the foods that represent you? Your culture?
- 2. Think about a situation in your life that left you feeling guilty. How did the experience affect you? How did you ultimately move past the feeling?
- 3. *Butter Honey Pig Bread* features three different narrators. What are the benefits to a reader of seeing a story from different perspectives? What about drawbacks?
- 4. How have your opportunities to travel affected you as a person? What experiences have been especially impactful?
- 5. Roger Mooking, a chef and TV host, was the Canada Reads champion for *Butter Honey Pig Bread*. Mooking's experiences as a chef give him unique insight into the food and cooking that are frequently described in the book. What are topics that you are familiar with and have some expertise in? How does your experience change when you read about these topics instead of those that are new to you?
- 6. What are the steps in forgiving someone? Is it more difficult to forgive yourself or someone else?
- 7. In an interview, Francesca Ekwuyasi said of her novel, "A part of me isn't worried about who 'gets it' that looks like not italicizing non-English words and not explaining colloquial terms. I'm Nigerian and I write about characters with that experience." How much should authors explain cultural allusions and terms they use to help ensure readers understand their book? What responsibility does a reader have to seek to understand language and references that are unfamiliar to them?



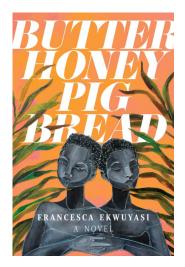


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## About the Author

Francesca Ekwuyasi is a writer, artist, and filmmaker born in Lagos, Nigeria. Her work explores themes of faith, family, queerness, consumption, loneliness, and belonging. Her writing has been published in *Winter Tangerine Review*, *Brittle Paper*, Transition Magazine, the Malahat Review, Visual Art News, Vol. 1 Brooklyn, and GUTS magazine. Her story "Orun is Heaven" was longlisted for the 2019 Journey Prize. *Butter Honey Pig Bread*, longlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, is her first novel.

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