

BOOK CLUB in a bag



Hench

Natalie Zina Walschots

Discussion Questions

1. Even though her novel is set in a fictional world, Natalie Walschots has “joked a lot that *Hench* is kind of an autobiography (...) there's a grain of truth there that does come from a real place. I heard Anna's voice as someone who was deeply and profoundly angry”. What grains of truth do you see in the story? Why is Anna so angry and how does her anger reflect our world?
2. Would you rather be a good person working a terrible job, or do a good job for terrible people?
3. Which characters did you like best? Which did you like least?
4. Which character did you relate to, or empathize with, the most? Why?
5. What do you think happens to the characters after the book's official ending?
6. What are your thoughts on the book's structure? Did it serve the story well?
7. How did the setting impact the story? Would you want to read more books set in that world?
8. Did the book feel real to you, despite being set in a world of superheroes and villains?
9. Have you read or watched other works of fiction that deal with the potential damage the actions of superheroes would have in everyday life? How do they compare with *Hench*?
10. Did the plot proceed in a way that felt natural? Or did you feel manipulated by the storyline?
11. Are there lingering questions from the book you're still thinking about?



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About the Author

Natalie Zina Walschots is a freelance writer, community manager and bailed academic based in Toronto. She writes everything from reviews of science fiction novels and interviews with heavy metal musicians to too in-depth feminist games criticism and pieces of long-form journalism. She is the author of two books of poetry. In her free time she has been exploring the poetic potential of the notes engine in the video game Bloodborne, writing a collection of polyamorous fairytales, developing interactive narrative classes and composing short text-based body horror games. She also plays a lot of D&D, participates in a lot of Nordic LARPs, watches a lot of horror movies and reads a lot of speculative fiction

Via Harper Collins Canada (<https://www.harpercollins.ca/author/cr-194802/natalie-zina-walschots/>)

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