

**When They Call You a Terrorist: A Story of Black Lives Matter and the Power to Change the World**  
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Reading Group Discussion Questions for YA Adaptation

Reader Questions Chapter 1

Did you grow up surrounded by different cultures? If so—or if not—how has that influenced you?

What was your neighborhood like when you were growing up? How do you think that's shaped who you are?

How has your relationship with your birth family or chosen family changed your outlook on life?

Reader Questions Chapter 2

What do the police represent to you?

What has been your personal experience with the police?

Do the police keep a strong presence in your community? Are they approachable? Are they feared?

Have you witnessed unfair treatment against anyone by a police officer?

Reader Questions Chapter 3

Have you experienced anything that you felt unprepared (too young and vulnerable) to handle? How did you cope? How did it affect or change you?

Has any traumatic or rewarding experience led you toward an enlightened understanding of yourself or your circumstances?

Reader Questions Chapter 4

How have you experienced loss in your life?

How has the heartache of loss changed you?

How have you rebounded from loss?

Reader Questions Chapter 5

Is there a person in your life who is a force of nature?

How have you relied upon that person to hold you up—to show you the way forward—to keep you going?

Does that person know how much you need them?

Reader Questions Chapter 6

Have you ever felt pressured by friends or family members to do something you were uncomfortable with?

Have you caved to that pressure? If so, what were the consequences?

Have you resisted pressure and stood up against it? Was doing so intimidating? Was the result rewarding?

Reader Questions Chapter 7

What does *identity* mean to you?

Have you felt pressured to identify yourself?

Do you believe identifying yourself can create limits and walls that can't be crossed?

### Reader Questions Chapter 8

How do you accept and move on from the unacceptable?

What can be done to forge change?

What would you do?

### Reader Questions Chapter 9

Do you or a loved one suffer from mental illness or challenged abilities?

Have you ever felt ashamed of your family or felt a loved one has?

Have you experienced the anguish of feeling helpless—that the law is not on your side?

Have you experienced the powerful beauty of rising up together?

### Reader Questions Chapter 10

Do you believe you have the power to forge positive change?

How can you get involved?

### Reader Questions Chapter 11

What moves you to fight back even when the stakes are high?

Have you participated in a demonstration or protest?

Have you ever feared getting involved in a fight you believe in?

### Reader Questions Chapter 12

Have you ever felt inspired to organize?

What goes through your mind when you witness brutality and cruelty and injustice?

Do you know someone who has suffered this fate?

### Reader Questions Chapter 13

Have you ever been profiled because of the color of your skin or the way you were dressed or because of the person you were holding hands with?

Have you witnessed someone else being profiled?

What can be done to stop this?

### Reader Questions Chapter 14

What does Black Lives Matter mean to you?

How would you organize?

What would be your goals in the fight?

### Reader Questions Chapter 15

Have you been a witness to injustice in any form?

Do you feel a duty to participate in the fight for justice?

What role do you see yourself playing?

### Reader Questions Chapter 16

Have you experienced a relationship in which you feel protected?

Have you been involved in a relationship which felt unhealthy or dangerous?

What defines the difference for you between a safe and harmful relationship?