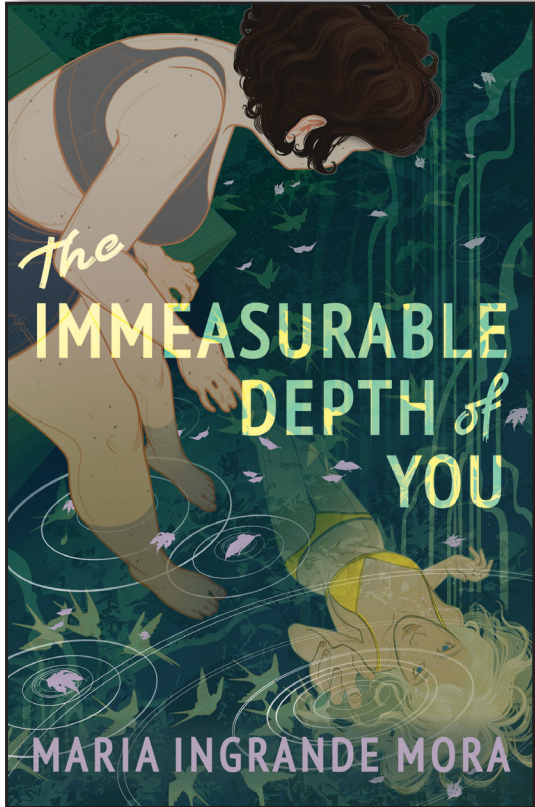


READING GROUP
GUIDE*The Immeasurable
Depth of You*

by Maria Ingrande Mora

ABOUT THE BOOK

How do you face your fears when everything is terrifying?

Fifteen-year-old Brynn can't stop thinking about death. Her intrusive thoughts and severe anxiety leave her feeling helpless—and hopeless. After her mom interprets one of Brynn's blog posts as a suicide note, she takes extreme measures, confiscating Brynn's phone, blocking her Internet access, and banishing her to stay with her father, who lives "off the grid" on a houseboat in the Florida mangroves. Isolated from her online friends, Brynn resigns herself to a summer of mind-numbing boredom and loneliness . . . until Skylar appears. Skylar is everything Brynn isn't—sultry, athletic, and confident. When Brynn discovers that Skylar is trapped in the bayou and can't tell her why, she resolves to free her new crush from the dark waters, even if it means confronting all her worst fears.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Describe Brynn. Chart her behavior throughout the novel. How does mental illness affect her everyday life? Brynn says, "I knew it was terrible to think of my diagnoses as defects. They weren't" (p. 57). Cite evidence that Brynn does think of her mental illness as a defect.
- Discuss Brynn's relationship with her mom. Explain why her mom takes her phone away and forbids her to be on the Internet. Debate whether Brynn's mom is overprotective.
- What are Brynn's thoughts when she learns what her mother was like as a teenager?
- Why does Brynn's mother ask her if she is gay? How does Brynn react when her mom responds, "Bisexual is the appropriate term" (p. 62)?
- Brynn's parents are divorced. How does the divorce cause Brynn feelings of abandonment? Describe Brynn's feelings when she first sees her dad. Why does Brynn think her father is on her mom's side?
- Explain the following simile: "Dad spoke to me like he was trying to tame a rabid tiger" (p. 56). How is her dad unskilled in handling his daughter? At what point does their relationship change? Describe Brynn's reaction when she discovers that her dad has named his boat Brynn's Tide. Debate whether this is a turning point for father and daughter.
- Brynn's mom sends her to spend the summer with her dad on his houseboat in Florida. Explain the following metaphor: "Mom had doomed me to become Rapunzel in an isolated, floating prison" (p. 21). Explain what Brynn's mom means when she says that her dad "was living off the grid" (p. 30).

- Brynn sees Skylar McKenzie, a girl floating in the water near her dad’s houseboat. Why does she become obsessed with this girl? Discuss what Brynn means when she says that Skylar has “sharp, mean edges” (p. 73). Discuss why Brynn thinks Skylar is hiding something. Why does Skylar tell Brynn that she was murdered?
- Explain Brynn’s father’s reaction when she tells him about Skylar. Why is he convinced that Brynn has been online? Discuss why Brynn’s dad has trouble dealing with the Skylar incident.
- Why does Brynn want to find Skylar’s parents? Explain why she thinks “the truth” will set Skylar free. Describe Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie. What is Brynn’s reaction when she learns that Skylar committed suicide?
- Discuss what Mrs. McKenzie means when she calls the story about Skylar’s death an “urban legend.” What does Skylar’s yearbook symbolize?
- Brynn meets Paula, her dad’s girlfriend. Explain what Brynn means by, “I wanted to hate Paula on principle. It was kind of my job as a child of divorce” (p. 101). At what point does Brynn begin to trust Paula? Why does Brynn feel guilty hanging out with Paula?
- What does Brynn discover about both her parents at the end of the novel? How does living with her father for a few weeks start a new chapter in her life? Discuss how Patricia McKenzie helps Brynn come to terms with her mental illness. How does the conclusion of the novel explain the title of the book?

ABOUT THE CREATOR



Maria Ingrande Mora (they/she) is a content strategist and brunch enthusiast. Their love languages are snacks, queer joy, and live music. A graduate of the University of Florida, Maria lives near a wetlands preserve with two cats, two children, and two billion mosquitoes. They can often be found writing at their stand-up desk, surrounded by houseplants. Unless the cats have destroyed them.