

1. Why do you think the author chose to structure the story with alternating points of view between Havens and Jubilee? How might it have altered the story to have it only told from one of their perspectives?
2. Jubilee says, “A mind poisoned against Blue can be passed to offspring every bit as easily as a crooked nose or a keenness with numbers.” What other factors allowed the hostility towards the Bufords to take root? What effect has prejudice had on Jubilee, Levi and the other members of their family, and how does each character respond? In what ways does the town’s hostility unite the family and in what way does it contribute to tension?
3. Massey and Havens disagree about how best to help the Bufords. Did you find Massey’s argument in favor of doing an exposé convincing or was it wholly self-serving? Are there instances in which journalists should not cover a story? Discuss Massey’s assertion that education is an important step in combating prejudice, and explore other ideas that can be employed to combat prejudice.
4. How important are setting and period in the telling of this story?
5. Does the author present a convincing portrayal of the mutual attraction between Havens and Jubilee? Though they come from different backgrounds and have vastly different experiences, what do they have in common? What makes them compatible?
6. Jubilee and Buford visit Levi’s grave after she returns from Louisville. “Where blue was something they all carried together, grief now has them carrying their own separate burdens, making them all but strangers to each other.” Discuss.
7. Some reactions to Jubilee’s changing skin color are expected, but some are not. What reactions surprised you? What changes occurred as a result of Jubilee’s treatment? Were all the changes beneficial to Jubilee and her family?
8. In a confrontation with her parents after Havens returns to Spooklight Holler, Jubilee says, “I’m formed around blue, and there’s no pill for that.” Why does she decide to forego taking her pills? Would she have been better off if she continued with the treatment and moved somewhere else? How might her life been different?

9. In what way has the color of Jubilee's skin shaped her own understanding of who she is? How does her view of herself change over the course of the story, and how are those changes evident in the way she behaves?
  
10. Going into town with baby Lenny, Jubilee decides "skin can't be worth much if it isn't worth risking to save someone else." Explore the relationship between self-identity and agency.
  
11. Several perspectives about love are articulated throughout the story. Socall believes "there's no such thing as being safe when it comes to love. Give your heart away and there's no predicting what'll happen." Sarah insists a person cannot choose who she loves, while Gladden is convinced that "a pair ought to be evenly yoked." At the end of the book, Havens connects love to a sense of belonging: "Pairing is what happens between two of a kind; what happened between he and Jubilee had more to do with belonging. In each other, they found their home." Discuss your own experiences of love, as well as your views on what distinguishes infatuation from true love, and what makes for lasting love.
  
12. Was the ending a surprise to you?