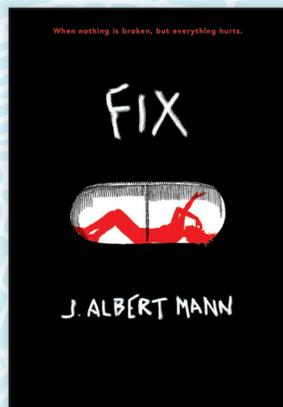


# FIX J. ALBERT MANN



Book Club Pick

## ABOUT THE BOOK:

Everything was fine before. When Eve and Lidia could hide their physical differences inside goofy Burger Hut costumes. When Lidia shook Eve up and Eve made Lidia laugh. When Lidia was there.

Everything is different now. Cut open...rearranged...stapled shut, Eve is left alone to recover in a world of pain and a body she no longer recognizes. Her only companions being a bottle of Roxanol and an infuriating (but cute) neighbor, Eve strikes up a relationship—and makes a pact—with the devil. Sacrificing pieces of a place she doesn't know to return to a place she does. What will she discover when she unravels her past? And is having Lidia back worth the price?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Eve narrates her story in a mix of poetry and prose. What do these different forms reveal about Eve's thoughts and feelings? Were you more drawn to one form of storytelling?
2. Over the course of the book, Eve experiences both emotional and physical pain. How do you think these two types of pain differ, both in experience and in recovery?
3. Eve describes building an ever-growing collage of mementos from her life. How do Eve's past and present overlap with one another? How does memory color her everyday life?
4. How do Eve's expectations of the people around her, like her mom and Lidia, measure up to reality? How does Eve's understanding for and relationship to people close to her change over the course of *Fix*?
5. Eve repeatedly refers to her bargaining as a deal with the devil. What role does faith play in Eve's life?
6. Eve remarks, "There's always a difference, though, between the imagined moment and the real one" (p. 69). How do Eve's drug-induced hallucinations correspond to reality, especially with regards to her relationship with Lidia?
7. As Eve struggles to manage her pain, she develops a dependence on Roxy. What addictive behaviors does Eve display? How does addiction affect different parts of Eve's life?
8. How does Eve's scoliosis impact her mental and physical wellness?
9. How does Eve attempt to exert control over her life while recovering from her surgery? How do other people help her?
10. In her author's note, J. Albert Mann notes that "I found it nearly impossible to separate how society saw me from how I saw myself" (p. 277). How does internalized ableism impact Eve and Lidia? What instances of ableism do you see in your day-to-day life?