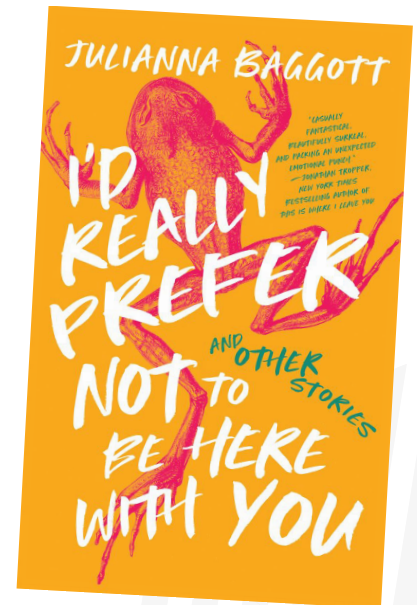


DISCUSSION GUIDE

I'd Really Prefer Not to Be Here with You

- In “The Now of Now,” why do you think she wouldn’t stop time for her old friend?
- In “I’d Really Prefer Not to Be Here with You,” why do you think they never reconciled?
- “Backwards” – Would you choose to reverse aging at the end of life? Why or why not? In the story, she questions if she can be there for her dad at this time given their relationship. Is there anyone you couldn’t support in this?
- “The Knockoffs” – Is this something you think could happen in our future? Other than what is in the story, do you see any additional pros or cons to this?
- As a reader, where do you think the kids who slipped through the gate in “Welcome to Oxhead” ended up?
- What do you think the significance of the bird was in “Nest”?
- Which story affected you the most?
- In “The Gaslighter’s Lament,” did your allegiance switch between the characters?
- As a dystopian fiction, did you find the messages within the stories to be hopeless or hopeful?



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Read these next!**

