

Discussion questions

Finding Community in Peculiar Places by Degania Laura S

1. The author has had various experiences as a camp counselor in different countries. How have your experiences at camps or in similar group environments shaped your sense of belonging? What aspects of camp life do you find most meaningful?
 2. Throughout the story, the theme of "community" plays a central role. What role does community play in your life? Can you think of a moment when you felt truly part of a community?
 3. The author shares their deep connection with nature. What places or environments make you feel spiritually connected and at peace? How do you experience a sense of wholeness when surrounded by nature or specific settings?
 4. The author reflects on their Danish identity and the blending of cultures with their friend Hayati. How do you navigate your cultural identities? Do you feel a need to "choose" between different parts of yourself, or do you embrace them all equally?
 5. Dance and music played a significant role in the author's experiences, from dancing in Nigeria to playing music with friends as a child. How do music, dance, or other art forms contribute to your sense of identity and connection with others?
 6. The author reflects on how some of the kids at camp in Norway dealt with feeling "othered" in a homogenous society. Have you ever felt like an outsider in a community or society? How did you cope with those feelings, and did you find support from others?
 7. The author talks about how dancing and enjoying time with friends creates a sense of safety and joy. How do shared experiences, like dancing, eating, or learning together, strengthen relationships and create a sense of belonging?
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