

# Skokie Public Library's Book Discussion Guide

## All The Names by Jose Saramago

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- How does the Registrar grow as a person in the course of the novel and what accounts for this? How does Senhor Jose?
- The plot of *All the Names* begins when Senhor Jose takes his first, hesitant steps through the doorway between his home and the archive where he works. What other boundaries, literal and figurative, are crossed in this novel? What is the author's attitude to these transgressions?
- Although *All the Names* is set in a realistic modern society with buses and telephones, in some ways it reads like a fable. How does the author clue us in that we are not to read the book as a conventional realistic novel?
- Based on your reading of *All the Names*, what would you say are the author's values? What is he opposed to?
- What do you make of the Registrar's final request that Senhor Jose create a new card for the woman, one without a death date?
- The novel is called *All the Names*. What is the significance of names in the story?



**Skokie Public Library**

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