

Skokie Public Library's Book Discussion Guide

Crossing California by Adam Langer

- What are some examples of good parenting in *Crossing California*?
- What are the kids learning from their parents?
- What kind of person is Charlie, and what is his role in the novel? What about Jill, Michelle, Muley, Deirdre, Carl, Michael, Ellen, Larry, and Lana?
- Which characters change the most in the course of the novel, and in what ways?
- Why does Lana want to host a Couples-Only Orgy?
- How does the Funny House figure in the plot?
- What reactions does Jill's Bat Mitzvah speech provoke?
- What does Muley's film tell us about him? About Rogers Park?
- How do minor characters contribute to *Crossing California*?
 - Mel Coleman
 - Aunt Peppy and Uncle Dave
 - Dr. Julius Bernard
 - Steve Ross
 - Hannah Goodman
 - Lennie Kidd
 - Gail Shiffler
 - Douglas Sternberg
 - Rabbi Shmulevits
 - Meltzer
- How are race relations of the period indicated in the novel?
- How has Rogers Park changed since 1979-81?



Skokie Public Library

5215 Oakton Street
Skokie, Illinois 60077
847.673.7774 / 847.673.7797 fax
www.skokielibRARY.info

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