EPIC READS Book Club Guide

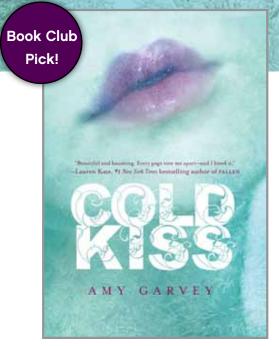
BY AMY GARVEY

ABOUT THE BOOK

Four months ago, Danny died. In a heartbroken fury, armed with dark incantations and a secret power, Wren decided that what she wanted—what she *must* do—was bring Danny back. But the Danny who returns is just a shell of the boy Wren fell in love with, and now Wren must keep him a secret, hiding him away while her life slowly unravels around her. Then Gabriel DeMarnes transfers to her school—and somehow he knows what she has done. Now Gabriel wants to help make things right. But Wren alone has to undo what she has wrought—even if it means breaking her heart all over again.



- 1. Wren says that, before he died, "Danny was the only thing that mattered," and she thinks that their kind of all-encompassing love was "the thing you're supposed to want" (p. 4). Can one love too much?
- 2. What is the best way to describe love—a feeling? A connection? A responsibility? Why do you think so?
- 3. Why do you think Wren's mom ignores her occult powers and refuses to discuss them with her daughters? Would you act similarly to Wren's mom if you were in her position?
- 4. If you were Wren, how would you talk to Robin about her blossoming powers? Would you try to teach her how to use them, or leave her to figure them out by herself?
- 5. If given the chance to go back in time, do you think Wren wouldn't have brought Danny back? Or, as she originally said, was it worth it just to "kiss him again"? (p. 111)
- 6. Was Wren's decision to bring Danny back a selfish one, even if her motivation was love? Should she feel guilty for her actions?



- 7. How are Wren's feelings for Gabriel different from those she had for Danny? Do you think that Wren will eventually feel for Gabriel what she felt for Danny or will her "first love" always be different?
- 8. Wren "thought love came with ownership papers" (p. 251). What do you think about that line? Do you feel that people who are in love should be able to have a say in the decisions their boyfriend/girlfriend makes? Is it possible to truly maintain your own identity when you're in a committed relationship?
- 9. Wren says about Danny, "He's the one I'm never really going to be okay with losing, but at least now I know that isn't up to me" (p. 288). Do you think Wren will ever truly be able to embrace Gabriel without remembering her first love?
- 10. Wren's mom tells her that "love doesn't always mean a happy ending" (p. 262). Is the ending of *Cold Kiss* happy? Hopeful? Sad?

