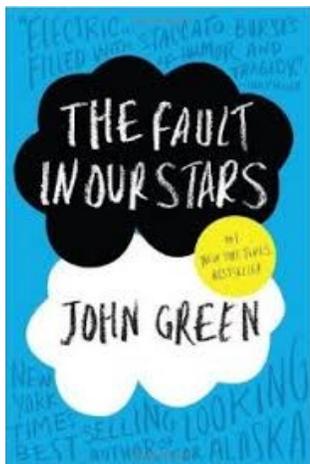




# Discussion Guide

## About the Book



Book Title: *The Fault in Our Stars*

Author: John Green

Published by Penguin Group (USA) LLC, 2012

Author Website: [johngreenbooks.com](http://johngreenbooks.com)

Book Website: <http://johngreenbooks.com/the-fault-in-our-stars/>

## Questions for Discussion

1. What were your general impressions of the book?
2. What do you think was John Green's purpose in writing the book?
3. Which of the characters did you find most compelling and why?
4. Would you call this book a romance novel? Was love a central theme? Why or why not?
5. Do you think this is a realistic book dealing with cancer and teenagers? Why or why not? Would you recommend this book for a teenager dealing with cancer? Why or why not?
6. Read over the MAMs comments. Which of the MAMs do you most agree with and why?
7. Would you recommend this book for other Book Clubs? Why or why not?
8. In what ways, if any, will this book change your life or perspective?

*Other Links...*

**Website for the movie: *The Fault in our Stars*: <http://thefaultinourstarsmovie.com/>**

**'The Fault in Our Stars' Author John Green on The Inspiration for His Book <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fB-nKES52yg>**

*Other discussion guides...*

<http://www.litlovers.com/reading-guides/15-young-adult-fiction/8711-fault-in-our-stars-green?start=3>

<https://www.goodreads.com/topic/show/1496816>

## Nancy and the MAMs share their favorite quotes and discuss the book...



*"I'm in love with you," he said quietly.*

*"Augustus," I said.*

*"I am," he said. He was staring at me, and I could see the corners of his eyes crinkling. "I'm in love with you, and I'm not in the business of denying myself the simple pleasure of saying true things.*

*I'm in love with you, and I know that love is just a shout into the void, and that oblivion is inevitable, and that we're all doomed and that there will come a day when all our labor has been returned to dust, and I know the sun will swallow the only earth we'll ever have, and I am in love with you."*

What a beautifully written book! I loved this book. John Green created a masterpiece, a tribute to a teenage girl he knew who lived and died with cancer. The characters he created in Augustus and Hazel captivated me and kept me reading. I found it hard to put this book down. I rarely read a book twice, but I'd like to read this again because of the eloquence of the writing.

I loved Augustus' eulogy of Hazel that she was important because she noticed life. Sometimes it takes a catastrophic event to wake us up to the beauty of the universe. Hazel seemed to know and live in the amazement of life.



**SALLIE:** *"You are so busy being YOU that you have no idea how utterly unprecedented you are."* I love this statement! It's what I tried to communicate with all the kids I taught through the years. They were each so precious and unprecedented, and usually they didn't know it! I hate seeing kids suffering and dying, but often these kids really get life.



**MOLLY:** *"Grief does not change you, Hazel. It reveals you."* Whew! Out of the mouths of babes. So profound. This is what I'm discovering right now. I'm going through chemotherapy in Nancy's next novel, *Revelation at the Labyrinth*. Definitely revealing quite a few things to me! Turning my life upside down, inside out. These kids express what I feel right now.



**PRISCILLA:** *"But it is the nature of stars to cross, and never was Shakespeare more wrong than when he has Cassius note, 'The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars / But in ourselves.'" I chose this quote because it has the title of the book and I know it must be significant, but I really don't understand what it means. Do you?*



**KATHARINE:** *"There are days, many of them, when I resent the size of my unbounded set. I want more numbers than I'm likely to get, and God, I want more numbers for Augustus Waters than he got. But, Gus, my love, I cannot tell you how thankful I am for our little infinity. I wouldn't trade it for the world. You gave me a forever within the numbered days, and I'm grateful."*

I liked the very real words in this book. On the one hand, they made fun of their counselor telling them they were in the Sacred Heart of Jesus, yet on the other hand they were so deeply spiritual. Wonderfully written.



**JANE:** *"He called out to his fellow monks, 'Come quickly I am tasting stars.'" A lot of beautiful moments in this book and this is certainly one of them. Reminded me of Patmos!*



**ABIGAIL:** *"I believe the universe wants to be noticed. I think the universe is improbably biased toward the consciousness, that it rewards intelligence in part because the universe enjoys its elegance being observed. And who am I, living in the middle of history, to tell the universe that it-or my observation of it-is temporary?" This is so contemplative! I love it. Such a beautiful realization by Hazel. This could be right out of one of our EcoSpirituality books!*