About the Book

This heart-pounding sequel to Select rocks the foundation of Julia Jaynes’s world: her family might not be the only ones out there with superpowers.

Julia’s domineering father has left the human world behind, taking her entire cultlike extended family with him. Living on her own terms in a fancy downtown Austin hotel, with full control of her vanished father’s fortune, Julia has never been so free—or so completely trapped. Hounded by the FBI for clues to Novak Jaynes’s whereabouts, she’s suppressing her powers again. And if her father finds out that her boyfriend John is developing powers of his own, he’ll resurface just long enough to take John away, too.

Julia and John agree to part ways over the summer for safety, but when fellow family outcast Angus appears with information about the mother she’s never met, Julia can’t resist a road trip quest for the truth. But her past is not the only secret waiting to be discovered . . .

About the Author

Marit Weisenberg received a BA in English from Bowdoin College and a master’s degree from UCLA in cinema and media studies. She has worked in film and television development at Warner Brothers, Universal, and Disney. She currently lives in Austin, Texas.
About Julia

- At the beginning of this story, Julia lives in a hotel. How does she feel about her living situation? Why is she not living in one of the houses her family left her?

- Federal law enforcement officers are convinced that Julia has information about her father’s whereabouts. What do you think about the way they treat her throughout the book? Consider the scope and nature of her father’s alleged crimes, her age, the disappearance of her family, etc.

- Julia is dogged by media attention. How does this change her worldview, attitude, and habits?

About John and Angus

- What’s your immediate reaction to Angus’s return? Do you think this presages good or bad things for Julia?

- What are some of the external pressures that John faces throughout this book? What do you think about the way he behaves in response to these pressures?

- Throughout this book, John’s chapters are presented non-chronologically, with a time reference provided in the chapter heading. What effect(s) does this narrative choice achieve? Would you order the chapters differently?

- Chapter fifteen contains several fraught conversations between Julia and Angus. What do you think of the last conversation in particular? Is Julia right? Does Angus have a point?

About the Family

- The Select series revolves around cults and secret societies. What is a cult? How can you recognize cults in real life?

- In their conversation on pages 166 and 167, it’s clear that Julia and Angus have very different feelings about their Puri identity. Is there a part of your identity that you sometimes wish you could step away from? Conversely, is there a part of your identity that you cherish? Why or why not?

- What do you think of Elizabeth’s beachfront community? Compare and contrast them with Julia’s family.

- How does Liv feel about her father’s expectations? How have those expectations affected Liv’s relationship with Julia?

- How would you characterize Novak and Julia’s relationship?

About Puri and Powers

- What do you think of how Julia uses her powers throughout this book? Are all of these uses ethical?

- Julia wrestles throughout this book with the Puris’ choice to maintain a closed society. What are the pros and cons of this choice? Where does each character stand on this issue?

- Is Novak’s paradise all it’s cracked up to be?

- What do you think of Julia’s choice to disclose some of her family’s abilities to Rafa and Agent Kelly?

- After finishing the book, go back and re-read the section where Julia and Angus are traveling through Colorado. How does your knowledge of the book’s ending change the way you read these passages, particularly Julia and Angus’s conversations?