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A Letter from Jodie Leigh Murray

Dear Book Club Readers,

Thank you for reading *The Gangster's Game!*

I had so much fun writing *The Gangster's Game*. I've always been a planner. With life, with my career, and with writing. When I embarked on my writing career in 2022, I outlined almost to the detail of every scene except for dialogue. I knew what would happen, what the weather would be, and the setting effects and props. This one I tried something different. I knew what would happen, and I knew what scene would need to happen, but after I got my characters in line, I simply wrote it. This, for those who aren't familiar with the writing process, is pantsing. When you're an author, you are an outliner or a pantser. Surprising, this worked out so well for me I'm going this way from now on.

Like *The Gangster's Mistake*, this book has some depth to it. Not necessarily with mental health and struggles, but with human trafficking. It's still a very big issue in this country.

Like my other two books in The Gangster Series, I included part of my playlist in this kit. Listen to the playlist while you chat about discussion questions. Encourage each other to share opinions or personal experiences.

Sincerely,

Jodie Leigh Murray

P.S. I would appreciate a review on Amazon or Goodreads. Thanks again!

Playlist @m-



No Time To Die Suite: Part 2, Final Ascent by Hans Zimmer

Wicked Game by Jessie Villa

Pneuma by Tool

Test Test . . . Enough by Chevelle

Hypnotizing by Aaron Camper

Make It Up To You by Khalid (feat. Ayra Starr)

Runaway by Sasha Alex Sloan

No One Knows by Natalie Taylor

Wildflower by Billie Eilish

The Line (from the series Arcane League of Legends) by twenty one pilots

Flaws by Daughter

It's ok I'm ok by Tate McRae

Cover Me by Candlebox

I Would Die For You by In This Moment

In the Air Tonight by Natalie Taylor

Rocket Man by Sara James

Messy by Lola Young

Don't Stop the Music by Rihanna

Waves of Blue by Majid Jordan

Surrender by Natalie Taylor

Did you know . . .

A single type of person does not define human trafficking victims. Victims can be any race, age, gender, sex, nationality, socioeconomic status, or ethnicity. Most often, victims of this abhorrent crime are not in a position to seek help for different reasons, including fear and language barriers. Sometimes those targeted don't think of themselves as a victim. Those who prey on these individuals target vulnerabilities, sometimes using basic needs such as food or shelter to gain trust.

Offenders of human trafficking can be from all gender, racial, and ethnic demographics with some using privilege, power, and wealth to control, including individuals, business owners, parents or family members of victims, members of gangs or networks, intimate partners, and powerful corporate executives.

There are signs that someone is being trafficked. These can include, but are not limited to:

- Physical such as injuries, poor health and/or malnutrition
- **Behavioral** such as appearing fearful or submissive, giving scripted or rehearsed answers to questions, avoiding eye contact, and/or having limited contact with friends and family
- **Situational** such as lack of personal possessions, working excessive hours, and living in unsuitable conditions

Help Centers

There are nationwide organizations and programs offering emergency, transition and long-term services to victims and survivors of human trafficking. The list of these organizations is lengthy and in most, if not all, states nationwide.

Discussion Questions

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- 1. What was your expectation about the book before you read it?
- 2. After reading the book, did your expectations change about it?
- 3. If someone asked you to summarize this book in ten words or less, what would you say?
- 4. If this book was made into a movie, would you watch it?
- 5. If you could give this book a different title, what would it be?
- 6. Is this book's genre the type you'd usually read?
- 7. How long did it take you to read this book?
- 8. What emotions did this book cause you to feel?
- 9. Did you learn something new about yourself after this book?
- 10. Did this book evoke a new feeling of empathy for other people and their personal challenges?
- 11. Did you like or dislike this author's writing style?
- 12. Is there a quote from the book that stayed with you? What is it, and why?
- 13. Is there a line from the book that you found unsettling or cringe-worthy?
- 14. If you could interview the author, what questions would you ask?
- 15. Have you ever met this author in person? What were your impressions or experience?
- 16. What character bothered you the most?
- 17. If you were making a film adaption of this book, who would you cast for each main character, and why?

- 18. What did you think of the characters' names? Did they match their personalities?
- 19. If you could rename a character, which character and what would it be?
- 20. Do you agree with the decisions made by the main character and other characters?
- 21. Is the book's setting somewhere you'd like to travel to, and why?
- 22. How does the setting impact the story?
- 23. Did the world the author creates in the story feel realistic to you or lacking in certain details?
- 24. If you could make the setting a different location, where would it be, and how would it change the story?
- 25. Did the author accurately portray the time period, or did you notice inconsistencies?
- 26. How would you describe the pace of the plot?
- 27. Were there any plot twists? Were they predictable, or did they take you by surprise?
- 28. If you could change something that happened in the story, what would it be?
- 29. Is there an event in the story that stands out to you?
- 30. Do you agree with the ending?
- 26. What were some of the themes in the book?
- 27. Do you think the author covered the theme beautifully or missed an opportunity?
- 28. Did this book cause you to gain a new perspective?
- 29. How did this book broaden your view of societal, cultural, or worldwide issues?
- 30. Did this book leave a lasting impression on you?



About the Author

Jodie Leigh Murray is an independent author of romantic suspense and historical romance novels. An avid reader since learning to read, she started writing at a young age and never stopped. When Jodie isn't writing, she can be found camping or snuggling up with a good book. Find her on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and Goodreads, and learn more at www.jodieleighmurray.com.