

## DISCUSSION GUIDE © MAHTAB NARSIMHAN 2022

### THE TIFFIN

- 1) What does family mean to you?
- 2) Why is family important?
- 3) How is life different for street kids in developing countries as compared to developed nations?
- 4) Discuss the delivery service of the Dabbawallas of Mumbai. Do you think it is unique? Why?
- 5) Do you like the character of Anahita or Vinayak? Discuss.
- 6) How is Mrs. Seth different from her husband Sethji? Why does she help Kunal?
- 7) What was Kunal like at the beginning of the book and how did he change by the end of it? What incident (s) was/were the reason (s) for the change?
- 8) On page 58 Kunal's "longing to belong crushed him." What does this mean? Do you know of any other situations where someone has a similar longing to belong and is unable to?
- 9) Do you think Kunal earned the right to use the Tiffin-service for personal reasons? Why?
- 10) Was Vinayak right or wrong in trying to dissuade Kunal from looking for his family? Discuss.
- 11) On Page 134, Vinayak says: "Be careful what you wish for, Kunal. Sometimes you might get it, only to realize it was not at all what you wanted." Have you ever experienced this? Discuss.
- 12) Did Kunal make the right decision at the end?
- 13) What would you have done? Why?
- 14) What do you think is the most important thing in your life? Family, Love, Friends? Something else? Discuss.