

THIS DAY CHANGES EVERYTHING

Discussion Questions

1. Abby dreams of getting to live out her main-character moment in New York City, where she hopes to confess her feelings to her best friend, Kat. Have you ever felt like a supporting character in your own life? Have you ever experienced a moment that felt worthy of an epic movie scene?
2. At the beginning of the novel, Leo feels like his identity makes him a “Logistical Headache” to everyone around him. Have you ever felt like a piece of your identity has made your everyday life more complicated? Have you ever felt like your identity has caused people to treat you differently from everyone else?
3. Abby thinks her parents will be supportive if she tells them she’s queer, but she still feels anxious about coming out, especially in her conservative hometown, where no one talks about being queer. What are the consequences when people in authority—whether members of the government, teachers, or parents—send the message that some identities should not be discussed in public spaces?
4. Leo’s older sister, Casey, suggests that Leo should just tell their extended family himself that he’s trans. Do you think it’s fair of Casey to suggest this? Why or why not?
5. Abby and Leo accidentally get involved in a queer book club’s scavenger hunt at a bookstore. What do you think they each get out of their interactions with these queer teens?
6. During the scavenger hunt, Ida suggests to Abby that queer people are everywhere, even when you can’t see them. What do you think is the impact of queer people becoming less visible in their communities?
7. When Leo and Abby play music with the buskers in Bryant Park, Leo feels a sense of freedom that he realizes he’s been missing. Do you have an activity, hobby, or passion that makes you feel like you can fully express yourself?
8. Why do you think Abby and Leo get in a fight at the ice-skating rink? What are each of them afraid of?
9. By the end of their day together, Abby and Leo have fallen in love. What else do you think they learn about themselves along the way?
10. If you could travel to New York City for a day, what would you be most excited to see?

