**LOUIS & LOUISE by Julie Cohen**

**Book club questions**

The early chapters of the novel trace the ways that Louis and Louise are treated differently as children because of their gender. How does this reflect your own experience? Do you think that our society has become more, or less, split along gender lines?

The novel says that there are some things that are destined to happen regardless of our gender: death, loss, love, fear, parenthood. Do you think that formative life events are experienced differently by people of different genders?

How do you feel about the character of Benny, in both realities? Did you feel there is a difference between Louis’s Benny and Louise’s Benny?

Did one reality (Louis’s, or Louise’s) appeal more to you? Why or why not?

Chapter one is called “Daddy’s Girl” and chapter two is called “Mummy’s Boy”—how was Lou’s relationship with their parents different as Louis and as Louise?

Gender is not the only binary in the book—what are some of the ways that the town of Casablanca is split into two?