



## WEEKLY QUESTIONS - TOGETHER TEA

### Week 2: Ch. 11 – Ch. 20

The questions below are intended to make you think about the material you are reading and how it applies to your own life, as well as where you can make changes. You can answer these questions on your blog, in a journal, or in our [Facebook group](#) – or all of the above! If you are behind, don't worry. All the information will be there for you to come back to at your own pace. No stress. No judgment. No guilt!

#### QUESTIONS:

1. When Mina announces her decision to head to Iran, were you surprised at Darya's reaction?
2. In Chapter 11, Darya says of her kids, “Ever since they were born, all she'd ever wanted was to do right by them.” What does she consider “doing right” by her children?
3. Darya says that part of her is ashamed of her homesickness for Iran. What does she miss? Why is she ashamed?
4. Ch. 13 begins a flashback to 1978, before the family left Iran for America. What has changed in Darya's and Mina's personality since then? What has stayed the same?

5. Under the new regime, women must hide their bodies and face severe restriction. How do Darya and Mina each respond to the new rules?
  
6. One of the scenes that struck me the most was the contrast between Mina's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday party and the fear of bombs and the guards. Imagine how it must have been to be a young girl having to live under such restrictions. What do the constant threats do to Mina? To Darya?
  
7. Mamani's death has great impact on everyone in the family. What did she mean for Darya? For Mina?
  
8. After Mamani's death, Mina sees Darya praying for the first time. Why does Darya turn to religion at this point?
  
9. What are your biggest takeaways or "Aha!" realizations from this section?

***"...Whoever had access to dispensing information drew and colored the world."***