

## Discussion Questions for *My Sister's Keeper*

### Prologue:

- The prologue consists of a single sentence, by Carl Von Clausewitz, from his volume *On War*. Keep the prologue in mind as you read the rest of the novel. Are you able to determine why this epigram would be appropriate to the novel?

### Each section:

- Each section of the novel begins with a quotation from such authors as Carl Sandberg, John Milton, William Shakespeare, and D.H. Lawrence. Do these quotations (which you might be tempted to flip past, but ought to read) contribute to your understanding of the section it precedes, or of the novel itself?

### Each chapter:

- How does the device of giving us multiple narrators to this novel contribute to your understanding of the situation? What would be different if Picoult had chosen to give us only one narrator?

### Other questions to consider:

- What separates Brian and Jesse, when they seem to have so many personality traits in common?
- Whose interests is Anna protecting?
- The stars and spaces get frequent mention in this novel, and seem to form a language that each of the Fitzgeralds understands. Why would astronomy offer such a language in this novel?

### As you finish:

- What is the purpose of that prologue from Von Clausewitz?

Have your opinions about the issues raised in the novel changed, or been deepened? Why?/Why not