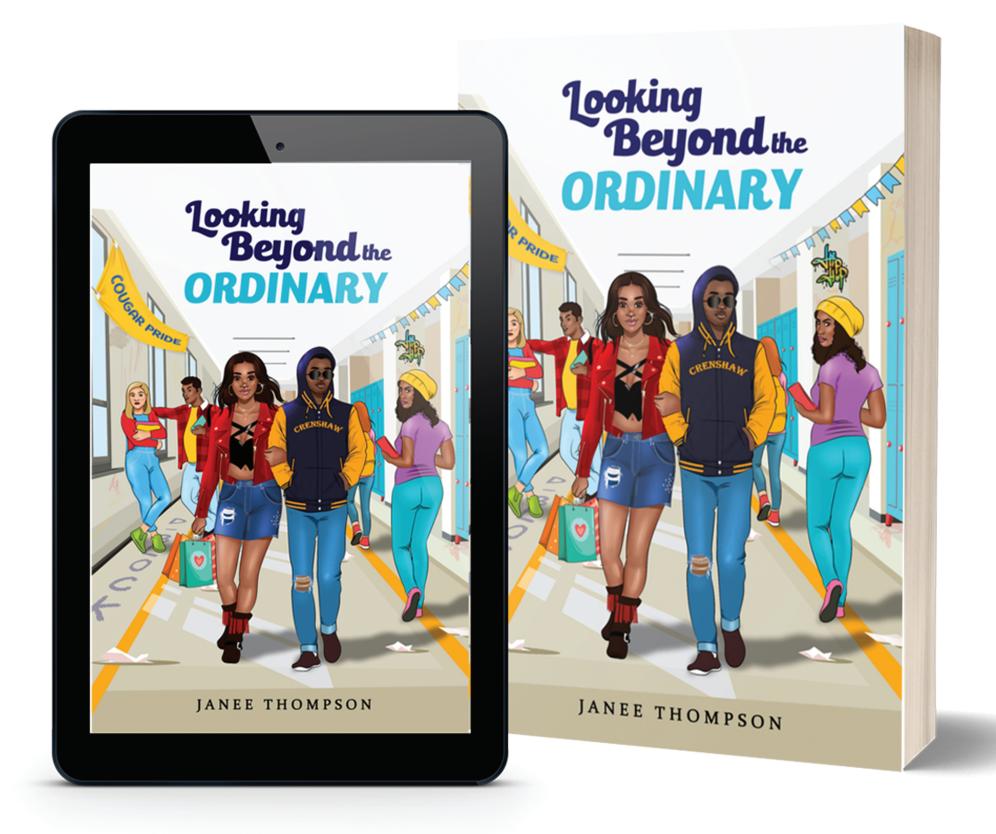
### Looking Beyond the Ordinary

#### DISCUSSION GUIDE



Gripping...

Relatable...

Honest...

# Looking Beyond the Ordinary

#### DISCUSSION GUIDE (PAGE 1)

- 1. What values has Jade's mother instilled in her and raised her to follow? Why? How might these values be concerning?
- 2. What does it mean when Mike tells Jade that he doesn't want their relationship "labeled?" What are your opinions about this statement
- 3. What intrigues Jade about Ghost?
- 4. Why do you believe that there is a strong distrust that Jarell has with everyone?
- 5. Why do you believe Jade and her friend Laurie feel the pressures to have sex? What are some key ideas about self-worth around sex that the two characters are exploring?
- 6. How has bullying affected the atmosphere of the school? How has bullying affected each of the characters?
- 7. Are Jade and Jarell's parents supportive? If so, in what ways? If not, what is lacking?
- 8. What factors contributed to Jarell opening up to Jade?
- 9. What are some things in Jarell's life that many of his peers and classmates don't know?
- 10. Why do you believe Jarell ultimately decided to fight back and defend himself?

# Looking Beyond the Ordinary

### DISCUSSION GUIDE (PAGE 2)

- 11. Compare the encounters with romance and sex that Jade had with Mike and Jarell. What are key differences between how Mike handled sex versus Jarell?
- 12. How has Jade's relationship with her friends changed from the beginning of the book to the end? Why did those relationships change?
- 13. What lessons about sexual consent did you learn from this book?
- 14. What lessons about bullying did you learn from this book?
- 15. What lessons about friendship and popularity did you learn from this book?