



### Discussion Questions: *Warm Bodies*

Folger Book Club—October 2023

1. What are your first impressions of the novel? If asked, what would you say this novel is about?
2. Were you familiar with *Romeo and Juliet* before reading this novel? If so, how aware were you of allusions to Shakespeare's play as you read? If not, do you feel you were missing something?
3. On page 4, R reflects ". . . it does make me sad that we've forgotten our names. Out of everything, this seems to be the most tragic. I miss my own and I mourn for everyone else's, because I'd like to love them, but I don't know who they are." To what extent do you think names are tied to identity?
4. According to R, "as the brain dies, the life inside clarifies and distills" (pg. 59). What key memories would yours contain?
5. What similarities do you see in the ways the Living and the Dead operate their societies?
6. The book is divided into three steps: "Wanting," "Taking" and "Living." How do these relate to R's journey? Did you carry those ideas with you as you read each section?
7. How would this novel have been different if narrated by Julie?
8. The Living's compound carries with it strict safety measures. What is sacrificed to maintain this level of security? At what point do the sacrifices outweigh the benefits?
9. Isaac Marion has written a prequel and two sequels to this novel. Will you read them? Are they necessary? Do you wish more of the before or after had been included in this novel?
10. *Warm Bodies* was released one year after the novel *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*. What is the appeal of taking classic literature and marrying it with the horror genre? What about zombies, specifically, seemed to enjoy such a cultural moment in the early 2010s? Do you still see that appeal today?