**“Interpreter of Maladies”** Discussion Prompts

NOTE: only comments that lead us to text (after a claim or idea) will qualify.

1. What themes does Lahiri explore, and how? Center on a particular theme and the author’s apparent tone towards it.
2. Focus on Lahiri’s depiction of a single character, and her subsequent tone.
3. Describe the narrative viewpoint of the story and its overall effect.
4. Identify a key symbol in the story. Specifically, what does this symbol represent, and why?
5. What is the central conflict of the story? To what extent does it resolve?
6. The story is about a particular place in time. On another level, it functions universally. How so?