

Discussion questions for *Sadie* by Courtney Summers

1. Author Courtney Summers chose to set her book in the United States. Do you think Sadie's story is unique to the United States or could it be set elsewhere? Why do you think Summers chose to set her book in the United States?

2. The podcast of the book is available here:

<https://us.macmillan.com/podcasts/podcast/the-girls-find-sadie/>

After listening to the interview with Courtney Summers, talk about these questions:

- a) Is Sadie unlikeable? Is it important to have unlikeable female characters in the books that you read?
- b) Summers says "You're always interested in the life you're not leading." What are the books that you've read that would prove that Summers' statement is true?
- c) The interviewer asks Summers who her influences were before she created Sadie. What are the characters you've met in tv, books and movies that you'd like to see have a bigger story?
- d) Summers says that her workspace is a simple desk away from the window. What is your most creative space?
- e) When asked about violence in her writing, Summers says that the acts of violence are necessitated by the storyline. Summers says that she leans on the senses and the pain, and the shock that the character is feeling. What memorable scenes from *Sadie* or other books do you think the violence is told well?

3. Summers mentions influenced by the podcast *Serial*.

You can listen to *Serial* here:

<https://serialpodcast.org/season-one> This podcast

series became famous because of so many reasons,

but especially because the podcast medium really helps make the story very compelling. Why

do you think *Sadie* is a story that should be told in a book with podcasts laced in it? Was it effective?

