

The Compound: participant questions

BiblioFiend | Version 1.0 | 15 October 2026

Whole-book spoilers. Optional prompts for adult discussion. Pass on any item without explaining why.

Book: The Compound by Aisling Rawle. Reference ISBN 9780593977286. Your edition / chapter notes:

Before full-book spoilers

What did the opening make you want to know about the place before you understood the game? | Which early reward felt strange when placed beside a basic need?

Q01. How does Lily decide what counts as a desirable reward? What part of that judgment appears to come from the game itself?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q02. When does a basic need become a prize? Discuss what that change does to the idea that contestants freely choose to compete.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q03. What can a camera's presence change even when no audience response is visible? Find a moment where performance enters a private act.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q04. How do intimacy and strategy become difficult to separate? Is uncertainty about another person useful to the producers?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q05. Which rule is powerful because its limits are unclear? Compare complying with a known rule and anticipating an unstated one.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q06. How does control of information about the outside world shape the meaning of staying? What would informed consent require here?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q07. Where does consumption replace a longer-term desire? Choose an object whose appeal changes after it has been obtained.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q08. What does the narrative allow readers to watch that the contestants cannot see? Does that place the reader too near the spectator role?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q09. How does a group relationship change when scarcity is introduced or removed? Keep one concrete resource at the center of the comparison.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q10. What does the ending make winning look like? Could the same outcome be described as endurance, loss or capture?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q11. Which final uncertainty feels essential rather than incomplete? Explain what a full outside explanation might do to the novel's effect.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q12. At what point did reading the game become uncomfortable in a way that watching it might also be? Discuss the form, not anyone's viewing habits.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Source record: <https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/773489/the-compound-by-aisling-rawle/>. Original prompts; no affiliate links. Version 1.0, 15 October 2026.