Book Club Discussion Questions for 404 Year: An auto/biography

Cella Anne changes homes often throughout her story. How do you define home and how does it relate to your self-concept (how you think of yourself)?

In what ways does the author's early family life shape the choices she makes?

In what ways does the author's personal history follow the life patterns of her ancestors? how does it differ?

How does Cella Anne's experience of religion in childhood influence her life journey? Can you identify anything similar in your own life?

The author loses all of her grandparents as a pre-teen. In what ways might this have impacted the choices she made later on?

The book emphasizes the shifts in the author's life between concern for social justice, to self-indulgence, and back to social justice. What does this say about how we find meaning in life?

This book explores the resilience of the author along with the hardships and resilience of her ancestors. What are some examples of resilience in your own life?

The lives of women are emphasized in a story that covers 404 years. Do you agree or disagree that women's lives are impacted differently from men? What are some examples?

The author dedicates herself to causes of social justice. Where in your life are you engaged in similar issues? How might you do more?

Cella Anne expresses many things that she learned from other individuals in her life. Who have you learned from and how do you use those lessons to improve things for yourself and others?