Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets: Discussion Questions

Dobby is introduced as a comical, even crazy character. How is his true nature revealed even in the early chapters of his story? What is his role in Harry’s life, and the complete story?

Gilderoy Lockhart has a very polarizing effect on the cast of characters. Is this realistic? Have you ever met someone like him? How does Lockhart become Harry’s cautionary tale?

Racism and Tolerance are huge themes in the Harry Potter Series, and they really flare up in Chamber. How are Mudbloods treated? Squibs? Could Tom Riddle’s targeting Hagrid be attributed to his giant blood?

In light of J.K. Rowling’s recent revelation that Harry should have ended up with Hermione, what evidence do you see in Chamber to support or refute that?

How much did Dumbledore know about Tom Riddle at this point? Do you think he regrets not stopping him while he was young?

Harry discovers his important characteristic of being a Parselmouth. This causes him to doubt his Gryffindor selection and to wonder about the connection between himself and Voldemort. How does this theme continue in the series? What role does the Sorting Hat play in Harry’s identity throughout the series?

Do you see Riddle’s diary as a theme of addiction for Ginny or Harry? How does it’s evil affect them?

Magical creatures play a huge role in Chamber. Which magical creature is the most important to the story?

When Dumbledore leaves Hogwarts he says *"You will find that I will only truly have left this school when none here are loyal to me. You will also find that help will always be given at Hogwarts to those who ask for it."* In this particular book he may be referring to Fawkes, the Sorting Hat and the sword of Godric Gryffindor. What else might this quote refer to in the complete story?

Once again, Harry’s friends are key players in the fight against dark magic, but both are absent or otherwise occupied when Harry comes face to face with Voldemort. Why does he need to face Voldemort alone? How would it be different if Ron & Hermione were with him?