

THE SALT LINE

A NOVEL

HOLLY GODDARD JONES


"Gripping and emotionally resonant . . .
Suspenseful and heartfelt."

—SCOTT SMITH,
author of *The Ruins*

BOOK
CLUB
KIT



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 What parts of the post-dystopian society in *The Salt Line* do you recognize from our own world? Is this future similar to what you imagine America will look like one day?
 - 2 Discuss the effects of class division in *The Salt Line*. In what ways do class and zone determine the characters' fates? Why do wealthier citizens want to look at life outside the Salt Line?
 - 3 How does the use of multiple narrators change your understanding of the story? Were there any characters you particularly connected with?
 - 4 Moral uncertainty is at the heart of *The Salt Line*. Characters like Andy and Violet, and even June, have moments of being both heroes and villains. Do you empathize with them? Why or why not?
 - 5 The characters in *The Salt Line* are drawn to nature, but are also imperiled by it. Discuss the importance of the wilderness and the role it plays throughout the novel.
 - 6 Salt provides both positive and negative consequences throughout the novel. Discuss its impact on the communities both inside and outside the Salt Line.
 - 7 How does each of the protagonists define freedom? Where do you think true freedom lies—inside or outside the borders?
 - 8 Would you prefer to live inside or outside the Salt Line? Why?
 - 9 How does fear govern the lives of those inside the zone? What kinds of fear are at play?
 - 10 What do you think happens to Marta, Wes, and Edie after the end of the novel? Will the changes in their lives be lasting? Do you think their decisions about whether to stay or to leave their communities were right?
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RULES FOR SURVIVING

BEYOND THE SALT LINE

As soon as you feel an itch, place the mouth of the Stamp on the affected area and depress the button



Don't waste time

Keep your buddy close and your Stamp closer

There is no pleasure without pain

Make sure your microsuit is completely sealed and tucked in at all times



Check and double check

Weapons, most pharmaceuticals, liquids, and unpackaged food items are forbidden

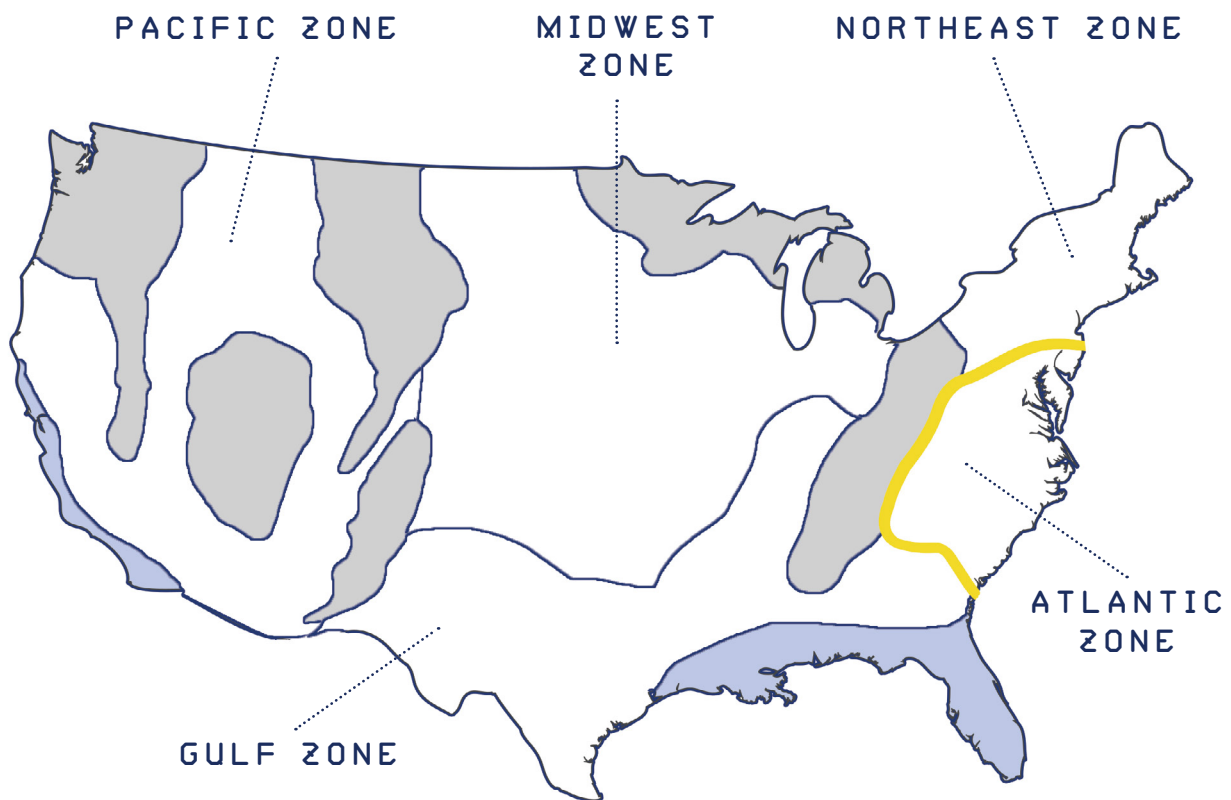
Be vigilant

Stay in suit, stay aware



The Stamp is your most precious item—
don't lose it

U.S. ZONE MAP



UNINHABITABLE
WILDERNESS

THE SALT LINE

SUBMERGED
LAND