



Our conversation catalysts are personal, open-ended questions designed to help spark conversation. There are more than you'll have time to get to, so feel free to cherry pick the ones you feel will resonate the most - or make up your own. Sometimes it takes just three to five juicy questions to keep the conversation flowing.

Episode Three
'The Problem
with the Solution'

Host: Alix, Lulu
Time: 59 min 30 sec

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#NPRListeningParty

Open Discussion - Let your group guide the discussion

What struck you most about the story? What surprised or moved you? Which character did you relate to most and why? What do you think is the key takeaway or open question of the episode?

The American Dream

Have you ever had a "dental floss" solution moment? That is, when you had a problem and found an instant, brilliant solution to? Describe what led you to it. In your opinion, is there a solution to every problem? Why or why not?

Twisting Buttons

In the story, we learn about "the buttons guy," a man who would twist all the buttons off of his shirt everyday. At the end of each day, his host mom would sew them back on because she knew it helped him. What was your reaction to this story? Would you have done the same as the host mom? Why? What is an example of a problem that you can't fix, but can work around? Explain.

Invisible Healing

Read the following quote from the story: "Crazy as it sounds, our private thoughts about a person, our disappointment in them or even our wishes for them to get better, shoot out of us like lasers and can change their very insides." What are your thoughts on it? Do you agree? Has there ever been a time in your life where you found that getting advice from a stranger was more helpful than a family member? Why? In your opinion, how can getting help from a stranger be more beneficial? What are the pros and cons to both?