



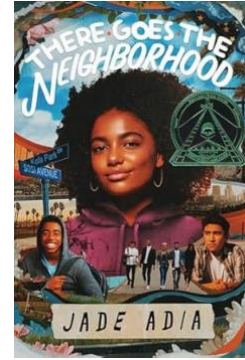
## ***There Goes the Neighborhood***

Written by Jade Adia

Grades 9-12

Date of Publication: 2023

ISBN: 978-1368084321



Reading Guide by Judith Siegel, L.A. Conservancy Volunteer

### **Discussion Questions**

1. What is the overarching message of the book? What do you think the author is trying to get across?
2. Who provides the narrative voice? Are there multiple perspectives or is the story told from one person's point of view? Aside from the narrator, how else do you learn about the views and feelings of the characters?
3. Who, in your opinion, are the major characters? Do you see the characters develop or change over the course of the novel? Did any characters surprise you? What role does each character play?
4. Where does the story take place? How important is the setting? What did you learn about the community of Kofa Park? What are some differences and similarities between Kofa Park and where you live? Below is a list of things which exist in Kofa Park. Describe each of these things in relation to your neighborhood:
  - Friendship
  - Community
  - Exploitation
  - Gentrification
5. Both race and gender are central to this story. Was the author sensitive in her portrayals of different groups of people and their life experiences? Why or what not? What feelings or views expressed by certain characters did you most identify with.
6. Did the author do a good job of capturing the way high school kids think and act? Did she effectively communicate her point of view? Was there humor in the book? Did the murder subplot add or detract from the central themes of the book?



**LOS ANGELES  
CONSERVANCY**

7. What in the story captured the way you feel, or spoke to your personal experience, and why?
8. In your opinion, how satisfying was the ending of the book? Did anything surprise you about the ending, and if so, what?
9. In the section at the end titled Dear Reader, the author says: “My dream for you, reader, is to walk away from this book reflecting on how change shapes our lives and our connections to one another.” Was the author’s dream fulfilled in terms of what you took away from this book? Would you recommend it to others?
10. Rhea, Malachi, and Zeke go to extreme measures to stop gentrification in their neighborhood. Can you think of other ways they may have tried to address this problem?
11. Is gentrification an issue in your neighborhood? In what ways does gentrification change a neighborhood, in terms of the people, the buildings, and the businesses/services available?

