

Revenge of the Sluts by Natalie Walton Discussion Guide

Double standards are about to get singled out.

As a lead reporter for The Warrior Weekly, Eden has covered her fair share of stories at St. Joseph's High School. And when intimate pictures of seven female students are anonymously emailed to the entire school, Eden is determined to get to the bottom of it.

In tracking down leads, Eden is shocked to discover not everyone agrees the students are victims. Some people feel the girls "brought it on themselves." Even worse, the school's administration seems more concerned about protecting its reputation than its students.

With the anonymous sender threatening more emails, Eden finds an unlikely ally: the seven young women themselves. Banding together to find the perpetrator, the tables are about to be turned. The Slut Squad is fighting back!

- 1. Consider the perspective the author has chosen to write the book in. Eden is neither one of the "sluts" cataloged in the initial email, nor is she Eros. She has no personal stake in Nudegate. Why do you think the author chose to write the story from this perspective? How do we see the story differently because of it?
- 2. Many characters within the book are divided by the Nudegate case and many believe that the girls "deserved it," and were to blame for sending pictures in the first place or being "stupid enough to show her face in a nude." (p. 8). How do these views play into double standards and how we view female sexuality vs. male sexuality?
- 3. Peer pressure and fragile masculinity are also huge themes within Revenge of the Sluts. Eden at one point says, "You're all using photos and sex as some sort of social currency." (p. 138). How is this demonstrated with characters like Nick Haskell (Eden's ex) or Louis Sanford (Alice's boyfriend), or even Luke Anderson?
- 4. "It was different when he saw me in person; it felt so permanent to see it all in pictures." (p. 137). Consider this quote from Eden when she's thinking back to when she sent nudes to Nick. What is the impact of turning intimate moments into permanent photos?
- 5. Despite self-identifying as a reporter, Eden often crosses the line into being a detective when it comes to the Nudegate case. Where is the line between the two and why is it important (or not important) for impartiality in those who bring us the news vs. those solving a case?

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- 6. Censorship and, to a certain extent, propaganda become major topics within the book when Principal Yanick decides to suppress all Weekly Warrior articles concerning Nudegate. Why is it so important to Ronnie and Eden to publish these stories? What does Yanick gain by refusing to publish the stories?
 - 7. In the book, the state of Massachusetts doesn't strictly prohibit revenge porn in its laws unless the victims are under eighteen years old (in which case it becomes a case of child pornography). What is the importance of age when it comes to consent?
- 8. When Eros's identity is finally revealed, they are an unexpected culprit. Despite their personal motivations for revenge, how have Eros's actions been informed by a culture of slut-shaming and double standards for young women in our society?
- 9. Sloane Mayer is a controversial character among the students, teachers, and administration at St. Joseph's. She is both admired and vilified for her confident sexuality. Compare and contrast her character with that of Luke Anderson—a male character who is equally sexually active even so far as to have a "wank bank" on his phone (p. 124). What are the differences in the way these two characters are treated by their peers?
- 10. Consider this quote from Sloane: "he'll be talking to his friends later like he's some huge player and he's a real lady's man, as if us hooking up wasn't a mutual act. Like we didn't have consensual sex because we both wanted to. It's like sex is something they do to us so they can brag about it later. I'm not a conquest to feed someone's ego, I want to get laid." (pp. 224–225). How does the language we use to describe sex play into how we view the power dynamics involved in the act? Can you think of other harmful ways of describing sex that are used in everyday language?



About the Author

Natalie Walton has been writing for as long as she can remember, completing her first 'book' in second grade. She began posting her stories on Wattpad at the age of fourteen and has since amassed over 18 million reads on her works. Natalie is a Delaware resident and wrote *Revenge of the Sluts* while being a full-time student at the University of Delaware, working toward her degree in sociology and criminal justice.

See **rotsbook.com** for resources for victims of nonconsensual pornography.

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