

Discussion Questions for *My Other Kids: A Memoir of Child Advocacy and the Power of Showing Up* by Julie Savitch

1. What moment in *My Other Kids* moved you the most and why?
2. What did you learn about the foster care system or CASA programs that you didn't know before?
3. CJ's journey spans seven years. How did your perception of the author change over time? CJ? The system?
4. What are the emotional costs and rewards of advocacy, as shown in the author's story?
5. In what ways does the memoir highlight the importance of consistency in a child's life?
6. How did the author's personal identity—as a teacher, a woman, a mother—shape her relationship with the children she served?
7. Were there any moments where you questioned the system more than the individuals in it or vice versa?
8. Discuss the role of trauma-informed care in the book. How was it shown or neglected?
9. Which supporting character (caseworker, foster parent, therapist, etc.) stood out to you, and why?
10. Did the memoir challenge any of your beliefs about the child welfare system?
11. How does the author define advocacy and how might that shape how we show up for others in our own lives?
12. "Showing up" is a repeated theme. How did that resonate with your own experiences?
13. What are some ways the author balanced personal vulnerability with strength?
14. What would you say to someone considering becoming a CASA after reading this book?
15. If you could ask the author one question about her journey, what would it be?