

Book Club Discussion Questions

Lacie's Secrets

By Teresa Sorkin and Tullan Holmqvist

General

1. Did you notice a connection between this book and the authors' previous book, *The Woman in the Park*?
2. Were there any passages or scenes that stuck with you? If so, which ones and why?
3. There are many supernatural elements in the book. Have you ever experienced anything unusual after a loved one has died that couldn't be explained?
4. What do you imagine could happen in a sequel?
5. If you have read the first book, what do you think Dr. Helena Robin has planned for Kate?

Plot

1. Lacie believed in fairy tales. Modern Disney fairy tales usually end with a happily ever after, while stories by the Grimm Brothers get fairly dark and disturbing. How would you classify the ending in *Lacie's Secrets*?
2. If you had been invited to spend the week at Villa Magda with Kate and her friends, would you have stayed the whole time? If not, what would have been the final straw for you? But if you did stay, how would you have helped Kate?
3. Were you surprised at whose body was in the pool? If so, who did you think it would be? If not, why did you think it would be that person?
4. Why are the police investigation questions so important to the narrative?
5. What twists did you figure out before they were revealed? Which ones surprised you?

Setting and Theme

1. What are some of the prevailing themes in the book?
2. Gothic fiction is a genre that heavily utilizes tropes. What tropes of the genre stuck out to you when reading *Lacie's Secrets*?
3. How does Maine affect the book's story? Was the town a character as well, and if so how?
4. How does the isolation of Villa Magda drive tensions between the characters?

5. Ultimately this is a story about toxic love. How does love play into the house and its secrets?

Characters

1. Why do you think Kate felt it was necessary to go back to Villa Magda after so many years?
2. Did you feel Charlie was supportive of Kate? If so, how?
3. How does childhood trauma affect Kate? Her memory?
4. Why was Magda such a crucial figure in the novel? How did Max's love affect her and the house?
5. How would you describe Kate's feelings toward Lacie? Did they change throughout the book?
6. Darien has a hidden dark side. Did you expect him to be different from how he seemed in the beginning?
7. How do the main characters change as the week in Maine progresses? What do you think causes the changes?
8. Can you think of an example of one character manipulating another? Did you, as a reader, feel manipulated by the unreliable narrative?
9. What motivates different character's actions? Do you think those actions are justified or ethical? Do you think you would have reacted differently?
10. Once Alice's true identity was revealed, how did that change your view of how she and Kate interacted?
11. How is Chloe's character important to the plot?
12. Who in the book would you like to meet? What would you ask or say to them?
13. If you could insert yourself as a character in the book, what role would you play?
14. Kate has an imaginary friend. Have you or anyone you know ever had an imaginary friend?
15. If this were made into a movie, who do you think would play each character?