

## Book Club Discussion Questions

### *The Woman in the Park* By Teresa Sorkin and Tullan Holmqvist

#### **General**

1. Which quotes or scenes did you like the best?
2. Did you find the ending to be satisfying and meet your expectations of the plot? Were you expecting the final twist?
3. After you finished reading, what sections of the book did you want to reread in order to spot clues you may have missed?
4. Did you come away from this book wanting to read more by these authors or in this genre?
5. Had you heard of Erotomania before? If so, in what way? Was it similar to Sarah's disorder? Have you ever felt obsessed toward a love interest?
6. In the past, famous psychologists and psychoanalysts have conducted experiments on their patients. How do you feel about that?
7. There are many women in history, as well as in literary and film history, for example Medea, Shakespeare's Ophelia and Glenn Close's character in *Fatal Attraction*, that have been connected to madness. Are there any that you identify with? Why?

#### **Setting and Theme**

1. Was the setting one that felt familiar or relatable to you? Why or why not?
2. Did you get a sense of how Sarah experienced the city she lived in—New York?
3. What was the overarching theme of the novel, and how well did the authors convey the theme? If there were multiple themes, how did they relate to each other and to the plot?

#### **Characters**

1. Did you feel Sarah was justifiable in some of her paranoia?
2. Why do you think Sarah's son Jason is so defiant? Is he angry with Sarah or is it something else? How did Sarah relate to him?
3. Dr. Robin and Sarah's relationship is quite central to the novel. Why do you think the authors chose to include the Dr.'s notes?

4. Lawrence is mysterious and dangerous. Why do you think Sarah agreed to be swept away? How would you describe their relationship?
5. How does Sarah's relationship with Lawrence compare to her early relationship with Eric, before they had children?
6. Did Dr. Robin's need for control affect Sarah in more ways than just her psyche? Why do you think she kept her office so stark and impeccable? What other therapists in literature have been similar to Dr. Robin?
7. Why is Sarah so upset with Eric? Is it all justified? In what way has Sarah's jealousy affected her life?
8. Sarah's grandparents protected her from her trauma. Do you feel they did a good thing, or did it enable her in a negative way? Can you think of other ways that parents or caregivers can hurt a child while thinking they are doing the right thing?
9. Why did Sarah see herself in Thérèse Raquin? Are there any literary figures you see yourself in? If so, which?
10. Is Sarah a likable character? Did your point of view about her change once you discovered the true nature of who she is?