

Reading Group Questions

1. How much do you think Evie's role as a marriage counsellor influenced her own response to Hamish's leaving? Is understanding the complexity of marriage an asset or a roadblock?
2. Why didn't Evie simply return to Perth soon after Hamish left? Why do you think she got 'stuck'?
3. Which of Evie's counselling case studies made the biggest impact on you, and why?
4. Evie says, 'Sera is of Hamish, and Angus is of Evie. Some families are painfully obvious.' How might a different family dynamic have shaped the story?
5. What did you make of Evie and Ronni's friendship, and how can a new friendship support someone better than a long-established one when everything familiar falls apart?
6. Ronni says one has to be vigilant about 'predators' around a marriage, whereas Evie chose to trust trust itself? Which position is safer?

7. Hamish's elderly father said that the secret to an enduring marriage was 'You pick one person and you make it work'. Has the pace and disposability of modern life made this advice redundant?
8. In having an affair, Hamish became the sort of man he once roundly criticised. Do you think there is a 'type' of person who has an affair or that anyone might be tempted given certain circumstances and conditions?
9. Evie's experience with Ryan shows her that what she wants from a relationship now is emotional connection more than physical. Do you think that's a product of where she's at in life or a response to having been betrayed?
10. The book hints at a future relationship between Evie and James. Do you think that relationship will work? Why or why not?