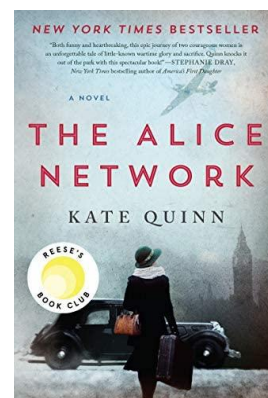


Discussion Questions

The Alice Network

Kate Quinn



1. Female friendship is a constant theme throughout *The Alice Network*. Charlie St. Clair and Eve Gardiner begin as antagonists, whereas Eve and Louise de Bettignies (Lili) are friends from the start. How does each friendship grow and change over the course of events?
 2. The young Eve introduced in 1915 is very different from the older Eve seen through Charlie's eyes in 1947. How and when did the young Eve begin to change into her older self? What was the catalyst of those changes?
 3. Lili tells Eve "To tell the truth, much of this special work we do is quite boring." Did the realities of spywork surprise you, compared to the more glamorous version presented by Hollywood? How do you think you would have fared, working for the Alice Network?
 4. Rene Bordelon is denigrated by his peers as a war profiteer and an informer. He sees himself as a practical businessman. Did you see him as a villain or an opportunist? Do you think he earned his final fate?
 5. Eve loves Captain Cameron and hates Rene Bordelon - but her relationship with Rene is longer, darker, and more emotional. How is her hatred for him complicated by intimacy? How does his realization of Eve's true identity change him?
 6. Finn Kilgore and Captain Cameron are parallels for each other: both Scotsmen and soldiers with war wounds and prison terms in their pasts, acting as support for the women they love. How are the two different as well as alike? How does Finn succeed where Cameron fails?
 7. Rose's disappearance provides the story's driving search. Did her eventual fate surprise you and how did it change the goal of the search?
 8. Everyone in *The Alice Network* suffers from some form of emotional damage from war. How do they cope with their war wounds? How do they help each other heal? How is PTSD handled in Eve's day as compared to Charlie's day - and as compared to now?
 9. Charlie dreads the stigma of being a "bad girl" pregnant out of wedlock, and Eve fears shame and dismissal as a horizontale if it is learned she slept with a source of information. Discuss the sexual double-standards each woman faced.
 10. Charlie argues that Rene should be brought to legal justice, and Eve argues for vigilante justice. Who do you think is right? How did it affect the ending?
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