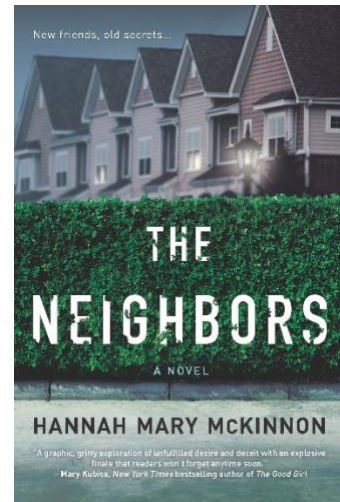


THE NEIGHBORS

Discussion Questions

Please note these questions contain spoilers.

You may wish to review them after you've finished the novel.



1. What do you think was the most impactful event in Abby's life? How did it shape her in the short and long-term?
2. Abby blamed herself for Tom's death and pushed Liam away to deny herself true love. Do you know anyone who has punished themselves in similar ways? How has that affected them?
3. What was behind Nate continually trying to "fix" his wife and restore her happiness? How do you think this impacted his decisions regarding himself and Sarah? Would he have been happier with someone else, and if so, why?
4. When Liam and Abby meet on the retreat, he tells her he still loves her, and that they're "married to the wrong people," but Abby says she owes Nate "everything." Did that situation justify Liam and Abby having an affair? Why?
5. What do you think would have happened if Liam had immediately confessed he'd been driving? Or if Nate had told Abby about his sperm test results? How would it have affected the characters and their stories?
6. Camilla tells Abby one in two marriages end in divorce because people pretend to be something they're not when they first meet. Do you know anyone to whom that has happened? What did it do to their relationship?
7. What scene did you think was the most pivotal in the story? How would the novel have changed if that scene had been different, or hadn't taken place? What did you expect to happen?
8. All the women in the story have deep-running, emotional issues. What could they have done to help each other, and how could that have changed their outcomes? Do you think women in general support each other enough? What more could be done?
9. How did you feel when Abby died? Did your feelings change when you found out she wasn't responsible for Tom's death? If so, did that change surprise you?

10. How can Nate deal with his grief, but also try to come to terms with the lies Abby told, and the secrets she kept from him?
11. Do you think Sarah can keep the secret about Nate's paternity? What would you advise her to do? How will her decision shape her as an adult, and do you think she'll see Zac again?