



Book Club in a Bag

Discussion Questions

Violeta by Isabel Allende

1. What did you think about Violeta as a character? How did she evolve throughout the course of the book? Which period of her life was the most interesting to you? Did you learn anything from her story?
2. Violeta tells her story in the form of a letter, a practice inspired by Isabel Allende's own correspondence with her mother. What does this style add to the overall effect of the novel?
3. Allende chooses to leave the country unnamed in *Violeta*. Why do you think she made this choice? How did the open-ended setting impact your reading experience?
4. Discuss Violeta's various relationships. How does Allende capture the ways we love? In what ways does our capacity for love change over time?
5. Violeta says, "It was clear to me from a young age that although I respected them, my mother and my aunts were stuck in the past, uninterested in the outside world or anything that might challenge their beliefs." Discuss the ways different generations approach feminism.
6. *Violeta* is filled with playful, witty humor. What scenes or moments made you laugh? What does humor add to the overall effect of the story?
7. Violeta's Aunt Pia observes, "Better a boring husband than an unreliable one." Do you agree? Do you think passion or loyalty is more important for a good marriage?
8. Memory is major theme in this novel, made up of the unexpected events that make a life. Sometimes it's a blessing and sometimes it's a curse, as Violeta says. Discuss how the book explores memory.

The above questions were taken from
<https://www.randomhousebooks.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/violeta-by-isabel-allende-book-club-kit.pdf>

to enhance your discussion of the book.

Author Biography

Isabel Allende is a Chilean American and describes herself as a novelist, feminist and philanthropist. She has sold more than 77 million copies of her 26 novels, which have been translated into 42 different languages. In 2014, she received the Presidential Medal of Honor from President Obama, and she has received fifteen honorary doctorates. Currently, she lives in California.

<https://www.isabelallende.com/en/home>

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