



Book Club in a Bag

Discussion Questions

The Alice Network by 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 you see 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 spy work surprise you, compared to the more glamorous version presented by Hollywood? How do you think you would have fared, working for the historical Alice Network?
4. Everyone in *The Alice Network* suffers some form of emotional damage from war: Charlie's depression after losing her Marine brother to suicide, Eve's torture-induced nightmares, Finn's concentration-camp memories and resulting anger issues, Cameron's guilt over losing his recruits. How do they each 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?
5. Charlie dreads the stigma of being a "bad girl" pregnant out of wedlock, and Eve fears shame and dismissal as a horizon tale if it is learned she slept with a source for information. Discuss the sexual double-standards each woman faced. How have our sexual standards for women changed since 1915 and 1947?
6. 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? How do you think the outcome will bind Eve and Charlie and Finn in future, since they cannot share their adventure with anyone else?

The above questions were taken from Kate Quinn's website, Extras: Book Clubs.
www.katequinnauthor.com/extras/book-clubs

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