



***A Walk Down Rushville* Suggested Book Club Questions** *By Barbara Burton*

*****SPOILER ALERT*****

Some of these questions give away some of the plot.

1. How did Skyler's decision to become involved in the neighborhood crime change her life?
2. Discuss Skyler's friendship with Julie? What makes them compatible? What do you think Skyler learns from Julie that helps her cope with her problems?
3. How did her relationship with her family shape her? What did she learn from her father that guided her life? How did the "dysfunction" of her mother and her sister affect her? How did she finally resolve those issues?
4. What incident do you think represented the climax in the book? Why or why not?
5. There are three settings in the novel. How does Skyler's character develop in each of the three settings?
6. Skyler plays the violin. What role does music play in her life and how does it affect her?
7. What incidents do you think shaped her psychological development/healing the most? What incidents shaped her spiritual development the most? Was there a time in the book when you thought she had developed a strong faith? Discuss.
8. What character did you relate to the most? Why? What character were you unable to relate to? Were the characters clearly drawn and depicted? Were they believable? What about Mousse 😊
9. Which character or moment prompted the strongest emotional reaction to you? Why? What scene resonated with you most on a personal level—why. How did it make you feel?
10. What did you think of the few plot twists in the novel? Were they believable? Why or why not?
11. It's been remarked that there is actually too much conflict in this novel. Do you agree? Why or why not?
12. What did you think about her interaction with Maria and Andrea? Do you think these relationships were important in Skyler's character development? Why or why not?
13. Why do you think Skyler's father Luca hid his second family in Italy? How did this impact Skyler's view of her father?
14. What do you think Kristina taught Skyler and why do you think this relationship was important to Skyler?
15. How did you experience the courtroom scene? Was it believable? Did you think the sentencing, etc. was realistic and appropriate for Kate's involvement in the crime?
16. Describe Skyler's presence in hospitals—first with her sister, then Kate and then herself? How did these medical experiences affect her?

17. What do you think were the main themes of the book? How were those themes brought to life?
18. What did you think of the writing style? What could be improved? What did you like? Dislike?
19. Did you like the ending of the book? Did you find it believable that Skyler was willing to move to Italy? Why or why not? Did you think it realistic that Skyler would fly her friends to Italy? What about putting her friends on the lease to the villa?
20. What do you think about Skyler's decision to "trick" Kate into coming to Italy?
21. Discuss Skyler's relationship with her half-sister and her real sister. What was resolved or unresolved at the end of the book?
22. What do you think Skyler learned from her relationship with Kristina? Was this important to her character development? Why or why not?
23. In later chapters, Skyler falls in love with Filippo. What do you think about their relationship?
24. What did you think of the Epilogue and how did this section illustrate Skyler's mental/emotional/spiritual health and maturity?
25. What did you think about the descriptions of the 3 settings? Was there one setting that you felt was depicted better than another? Why?
26. Finally, when you finished the book, how did it make you feel?



Thank you for selecting my first novel for your Book Club!

Sincerely,
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PS: Feel free to email me your thoughts and insights