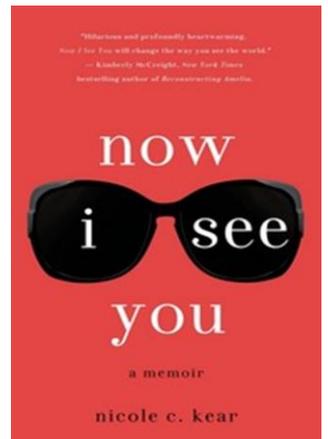


Now I See You

By Nicole C. Kear



Reading Group Guide Questions:

1. The story begins when nineteen year-old Nicole discovers that she has an incurable retinal disease. Have you ever been blindsided by bad news? Do you think it makes it easier to cope with news if you see it coming and can prepare yourself emotionally or do you think there's a mercy in being unaware of what's coming?
2. In response to "the death sentence" slapped on Nicole's eyes, she draws up a bucket list of all the things she wants to see before she goes blind. Have you ever had an experience that suddenly made you treasure something you'd taken for granted, whether your life, health, vision, family or financial stability? If you found out you were going blind tomorrow, what items would be on your visual bucket list?
3. Within a few weeks of her diagnosis, Nicole decides she should keep her vision loss private. What motivates her to make this decision? Do you think it's the right one? How would the story have unfolded differently had she not opted to keep the vision loss concealed?
4. After a period of shock, confusion and sadness, Nicole comes to see the diagnosis as an imperative to seize the day. How do you think you'd respond, were you in Nicole's shoes? Do you think her age played a part in the way in which she responded? Are there any situations you handled one way when you were younger that you think you'd handle differently now?
5. The subject of the book is a serious one yet the story is told with a great deal of humor. Do you think this humor adds to the reading experience or takes away from it? Why do you think Nicole employs so much humor in the telling of her story? Do you use humor in your own life as a coping strategy?
6. When Nicole's first child is born, she writes, "I cried like it was me bring born, and in a way, of course, it was." In which way is Nicole re-born when she becomes a mother? Do you feel like you were re-born, or at least, re-invented, with the birth of your child?
7. At first, Nicole considers her hidden vision loss an "omission" and not a "lie." Do you think there is a difference between the two? What was the point at which you thought her passive omission became an active lie? Why do you think she continues to keep her blindness a secret, despite the fact that it grows harder and harder to keep hidden?
8. The decision whether or not to have a third child is one that Nicole and David weigh carefully. Have you ever faced a choice like that? How did you ultimately arrive at your decision?
9. Who's your favorite character in the book and why? What were the specific details that made the characters really come to life, the moments in which you felt like they jumped off the page and felt real to you?
10. What do you think Nicole learns from the experience of losing her vision and how do these lessons change her? What do you think is the main message or messages of the book?