

1. The Right Sort Marriage Bureau is based on actual such agencies. How does a marriage bureau work and why might someone go through a marriage bureau?
2. Miss Sparks and Mrs. Bainbridge are very different types, representing very “modern women” for their time, yet both come from the same class in a class-conscious society. How do you see the class system in their lives and experiences? In what ways are they modern?
3. London—and England overall—was devastated by World War II. How is that revealed and discussed in the book? How does it tie in to the overall story?
4. In the age of dating apps, how would a marriage bureau work? In what ways and for whom would it be more effective? Less effective?
5. How does Iris Sparks compare to women today? In what ways is she similar to contemporary women and in what ways is she a product of her era? The same for Gwendolyn Bainbridge?
6. Sparks and Bainbridge are able to parlay their personal connections and gift for guile into extraordinary access in places not ordinarily open to them. What can they do that men of the same position cannot?
7. What authors does *The Right Sort of Man* call to mind? Why?
8. Which characters—major and minor—were your favorites and why?



Discussion Questions



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