



# WOMEN OF A DANGEROUS AGE

Fanny Blake

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## ABOUT THE BOOK:

**A wry, honest, and heartfelt novel of female friendship, romance, and self-discovery...** Married to a man who no longer loves her, Lou

realizes it's time for a change. So she moves out and moves on, with a spring in her step and an exciting new business venture in the works. In honor of her newfound freedom, Lou travels to India, where she befriends Ali, another woman traveling alone.

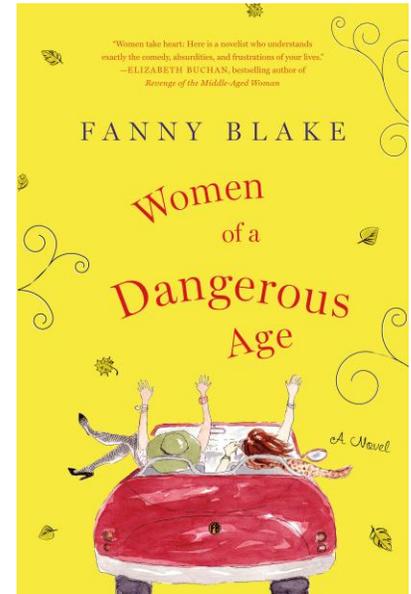
A serial mistress, Ali couldn't be more different from Lou. Before her trip to India, Ali's latest lover changes the rules and asks her to make a life with him, a prospect she comes to accept with glee. But upon her return, Ali learns that her would-be partner is not the man she took him for, and now she, too, needs a new beginning.

As Lou and Ali work together to put the past behind them—even at a time when it's perhaps most inclined to stick around—they discover new possibilities for life and for love. And as their stories unfold, it just so turns out that the two women have shockingly more in common than they had thought.

With *Women of a Dangerous Age*, Fanny Blake celebrates that powerful yet terrifying time in a woman's life when she must find the courage to reconcile the life she leads with the life she desires.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Lou and Ali's "dangerous age" is when they start to compare the lives they lead with the lives they want to lead. How would you define a "dangerous age," and is it confined to middle-aged women?
2. Lou and Ali meet on the trip of a lifetime in India. If you needed to travel on your own, where would you go?
3. Ever since a devastating break up when she was a young woman, Ali's love life has been categorized by a string of affairs with married lovers. Do you sympathize with her position or do you think she's morally bankrupt?



4. Does Lou do the right thing when she goes into business with Ali, given her new knowledge of her relationship with Hooker?
5. Do you sympathize with the difficulty Lou experiences in fully letting go of her marriage? Or do you feel she should have been more decisive and made a clean break?
6. Hooker has been unfaithful to Lou multiple times, but he's still the father of her children. Is she ultimately right to leave him, or should she have given him another chance?
7. When Lou discovers that Hooker has a son with another woman, she insists he tell their children. Do you feel Lou was right in forcing Hooker to disclose this information to their children? How does this revelation influence your opinion of Hooker?
8. Did Ali's father really protect her by keeping the true details of her mother's death from her? Or should he have come clean years earlier?
9. What role do secrets play in the book? Are secrets always worth keeping?
10. Discuss the transformations that Ali and Lou undergo throughout the book. How does the author use their apparent role reversal as a plot device?
11. Both Lou and Ali make great efforts to change their lives. Is there anything you would currently change about your life? And if so, how would you go about implementing that change?
12. Lou and Ali's friendship helps them get through their "dangerous age." What do your female friends add to your life that men can't?

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