DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. One of the things which make this novel work so well is the way the author gives us several possibilities, all equally credible, as to what might have happened to Geniver’s baby. Discuss how this is achieved.

2. Which option is the one you are most inclined to believe until you find out the truth at the end of the novel?

3. As Geniver is a first-person narrator, we experience everything from her perspective. How does this bias your perception of people and situations from the beginning? Does it ever make you doubt her decisions?

4. There are multiple clues throughout the novel that point towards the several big reveals at the end. Do you think these are intentionally placed as hints or are they meant to further the paranoia and sense of unreliable perceptions?

5. When we first meet Lorcan he comes across as charming but untrustworthy. By the end of the novel his true character is revealed. Discuss his role in this novel.

6. A well-respected businessman who clearly adores his wife, how does your opinion of Art change during the course of the novel? How does the author achieve this?
7. The child’s narrative that intersperses the story is a mystery until the very end. Who did you think it was? Discuss how the reveal of the child’s identity and his specific loyalties change the way you think about the novel.

8. Throughout the novel there is an underlying tension and sense of paranoia. How does the author create this?

9. Both Morgan and Art are severely affected by their childhood relationships with their late father. How much does this early trauma contribute to their life decisions and personalities? Does the knowledge of their difficult childhoods make you more understanding of their adult actions?

10. What about Gen? Do her memories of her late father influence her actions in any way?

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