



1. Why do you think the author chose not to describe Peter and Arie's reunion? How would the book have changed if he had?
2. Who is the hero of the book?
3. After five horrific years in the concentration camps, Arie emerged hard and ruthless. Do his Holocaust experiences justify his actions later?
4. Peter is a killer with a cause. Does the cause justify the killing?
5. Arabs make up about 20% of Israel's population. Did the book need more Arab characters?
6. Tamara grows from a lost young girl to a powerful woman, yet until the very end she seems at the mercy of Arie's impulses. Why can't she emerge from his shadow? How could she have done it?
7. What if Diana had lived?
8. After Israel's founding, builders of all kinds made fortunes while most people remained very poor. Was this economic inequality a necessary, if unfortunate, trade-off for creating a new nation?
9. Do you think the Mossad should have exploited former Nazis to protect Israel's security, or should Israel have refused to deal with them? Indeed, should Israel have accepted German reparations money or rejected it as blood money?
10. Does Moshe's Egyptian mizrahi background give him a more or less authentic voice as the book's liberal?

*Discussion
Questions*



St. Martin's
Press

THOMAS
DUNNE
BOOKS

11. Do you think Ido and Alice will stay together in Israel or go to America?
12. The first twenty years of Israel's existence were a historic challenge for the Jewish people. Has that challenge really ended?
13. Who should Tamara end up with, Peter or Arie, and why?