



1. After Aidan tells Cassie that Molly seduced him, Cassie decides to give their marriage another chance. Do you agree with her decision? Is a one-night stand different from an affair, or would you react the same in both situations?
2. Alexis defends her love of sex and shopping by saying that girls need to have fun. Do you agree with her, or do you think she is compensating for things missing in her marriage?
3. Alexis seems to have it all—money, a beautiful house, a successful husband—but she is still searching for something that fulfills her. Should she be happy with her life as it is, or do you understand her need to work outside of the home?
4. Cassie is hesitant to manage the food emporium at Fenton's because she doesn't think Aidan would approve. Do you think she puts too much value on Aidan's feelings, or is compromise an important aspect of a marriage?
5. While Cassie is staying with Alexis, Aidan comes to visit and Cassie realizes she can't trust him. Is that attitude self-defeating? If she is going to give the marriage another chance, should she trust him or is she correct to have reservations?
6. Do you think Alexis and Carter's marriage is kept fresh and exciting because he is constantly traveling, or do you think it creates a distance between them? Would you consider marrying a man who travels all the time?
7. Do you think Cassie is too dependent on praise from her mother? Do you think it stems from being neglected as a child, or is it just a healthy respect for a woman who has had much success creating a fabulous department store?
8. Do you think Cassie and James belong together? How would you characterize their relationship?
9. Describe the friendship between Alexis and Cassie. Does one support the other more, or are they equal?

Discussion Questions



St. Martin's
Griffin

10. Do you have any sympathy for Aidan, who is getting older and working in a field where he is surrounded by bright young people? Or is what he's done completely reprehensible?
11. How big a part does San Francisco play in the novel? Can you imagine the novel being set in any other city?
12. Alexis believes it is all right to tell little white lies in her marriage. Do you agree or disagree?
13. How do you feel about James' refusal to start another long-distance relationship? Does it make sense given his experience with Emily, or should he love Cassie enough to endure anything to be together?

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