



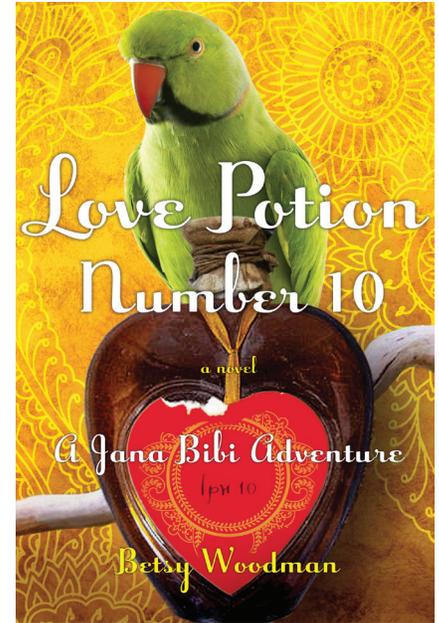
Reading Group Gold

Love Potion Number 10

Betsy Woodman

Discussion Questions

1. The idea of arranged marriages is very prominent in this book. How do you feel about arranged marriages? Do you think your parents would have chosen a good partner for you?
2. In Jana Bibi's life, love can be found in many ways—Love Potion Number 10 being one of them! Discuss the different ways the couples in this book met: from a long-distance pen pal to a university romance to a traditional arranged marriage. How do you think the way two people get together influences their relationship in the future?
3. Which of Jana's suitors did you want to see her end up with? Do you think she should remarry?
4. Jana's interest in dream interpretation comes to the forefront in this novel. What role do dreams play in the story?
5. How do you think Jana's previous marriage and her experiences as a missionary influence her outlook on love?
6. Jana's houses and living arrangements through-out her life are clearly very important to her, as we see her reflecting on them as benchmarks of her own personal development. What does the Jolly Grant House say about her now?
7. Ritu, as a woman scientist, is a wonderful female role model and, in 1961, is quite ahead of her time. Did you have a strong female role model growing up? If so, how did she affect your life?
8. How has Hamara Nagar changed from the time of *Jana Bibi's Excellent Fortunes*? Discuss the repercussions from Kenneth Stuart-Smith's write-up and Jana Bibi's fortune-telling on the town and the townspeople.
9. How do you see Tilku's future shaping up? Do you think he will become a pilot? Do you think Max's character is more important to the story as a love interest for Jana or as a role model for Tilku?
10. Is Jana the rightful owner of Mr. Ganguly? How do you think the kidnapping plot would have been different now than in 1961?



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11. What role does Aunt Sylvia play? What does her relationship with Mr. Ganguly tell us about each of them? What about her relationship with Jana?
12. What did you think about the way the author chose to end the novel? Would you have ended it differently?