



1. Justine Meade has bounced around the country a good part of her life. How much of her transient lifestyle do you think is directly attributable to her upbringing and how much is simply who she is?
2. What influence, if any, does the loss of her son have on Justine's devotion to Mack?
3. Justine is one of those women who seem to go from boyfriend to boyfriend. Why do you think she has attachment issues?
4. The Parmalees and Justine have each suffered a loss. Are there parallels between their stories?
5. At which point in the story did you root for one outcome over another, and why? Did you feel that Mack deserved one family over the other?
6. Did Artie get the comeuppance he deserved? Why or why not?
7. In what ways does Mitch earn Justine's trust? When did Mitch earn the trust of the reader?
8. How much about humans' grief, anger, joy, and regret do you think dogs understand? Have you ever had an experience that made you believe dogs know more than we think they know?
9. How did Mack's dancing effect and transform Justine? How did it do so to the Parmalees? What does Mack's dancing represent to each of them? To you?
10. At the end of the book, all three human characters have emerged with new perspectives on their pasts and their lives. What have they learned? And what has Buddy/Mack learned?

*A
Reading
Group
Guide*

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