



BOOK DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Viv is seemingly unfulfilled in her marriage, leading to her affair, yet she remains deeply attracted to her husband. What do you think drew Viv and Jonathan together? Had Jonathan lived, would it have been enough to keep them together, or do you believe Viv simply wanted to hurt Rick with a little payback?
- What's up with Louise's determination to keep Rick and Viv together?
- Why do you think Viv feels such a kinship with Dr. Alexander?
- What rests at the heart of the issues affecting Naomi's relationship with her daughter, Leslie? Was anything truly resolved by story's end?
- Do you think Naomi's spiritual views mirror a change in how people are relating to God?
- Given what happened to Jonathan, do you think the love between Rick and Viv (alone) would have saved their marriage?
- Do you think Rick's "change" was a natural or psychotic occurrence? That is, was his renewed confident and charismatic self a response to having experienced man's basic need to (ultimately) conquer and destroy the opposition? Or did Rick just "snap"?
- Do you agree that individuals define what love means for themselves respectively, or is there a definitive ideal all-encompassing for everyone?
- How important, really, is sex in a marriage? Is it a consensus that sex is viewed as something primarily for/about the male of the species? Was sex the sole factor holding Rick and Viv together?
- Despite what Rick did, were you rooting for him and Viv? Would you have forgiven him?