

I Know What You're Thinking by Phill Featherstone

Book Club Discussion Questions

You don't have to deal with all of these - it's not an exam! - so skip any that don't appeal. The aim is to offer you starters to open up discussion about the book so that readers can share their thoughts, and one question might be enough to do this.

(NB. If you haven't finished the book yet, some of these questions contain spoilers!)

1. What did you expect of the book before you read it? Did the title get your interest? Do you think the title fits the story? Can you suggest an alternative title?
2. What did you like best about the book? What did you like least? Are there any other books it reminds you of?
3. What do you think of the cover? How well does it convey what the book is about?
4. What did you think of the book's length? If too long, what would you cut out? If too short, what would you add?
5. Did the book seem realistic? How well do you think Phill built the world created in the book? Are there any aspects of the setting that you find particularly interesting? Are there any that just don't work?
6. What do you feel about the writing style (pace, descriptions, language, dialogue)?
7. Did the characters seem believable to you? Which of them would you most like to meet? Which bothered you the most? If you were a character in this book, who would you be?
8. If you were making a movie of this book, who would you cast as Beth? Cameron? Ingrida? Solomon? Folken? Salamar?
9. Share a favourite passage from the book. Why does this stand out for you?
10. What feelings were you left with when you reached the end? If you were to change how the story ends, what would you have happen?
11. Can you create a book group playlist for Beth? Would Cameron's be the same? What would be different? And Zak's?
12. If you got the chance to ask Phill one question, what would it be?

Additional questions to go a bit deeper

13. Beth and Cameron have a mental link which is part of their strong emotional connection. There are many anecdotes about close friends, family members (especially twins), and lovers being able to communicate beyond language. Do you have any experience of this, or tales you have heard that you can share?
14. Why do you think Phill set the story in a future where England and Scotland are separate countries? Are there other things in the world of the book that haven't happened yet but might?
15. One of the themes of the book is that the wealthy are able to bend science and medicine to suit their own ends. Examples are buying stolen organs for transplants, and rich women hiring surrogate mothers to bear their children so that their own figures are preserved. What do you think of this? Could Phill have brought in any other examples of money affecting health and wellbeing.
16. Beth and Cameron lose the mental link between them? Can you suggest any other ways in which their relationship changes? Does anything earlier in the book prepare you for this?
17. If you were to write a sequel to this story what would you have happen?