

The Marriage Lie Readers Questions. Please note :: spoilers ahead! Proceed accordingly.

1. After the crash, Iris discovers pretty quickly that her husband had been carrying deep secrets. What do you think of his reason for not telling? Is it ever necessary or justifiable to lie to someone you love? How much is too much to hide from a partner?
2. Along those lines, does Iris bear any of the blame for accepting her husband's secrecy about his past? Should she have spotted the holes in his stories sooner in their relationship? In what ways was Iris lying to herself?
3. When Iris discovers Will's disadvantaged youth in Seattle, she understands his need to own a home that essentially would make them house poor. In what other ways do you think his past difficulties affected the life he built with Iris?
4. Take a moment to talk about Will. Is he a sympathetic character? Do you believe he became a good man, one who had truly left his past sins behind? To what extent does a person's past influence or define his future?
5. Iris's job as psychologist plays a pivotal role in her life and in her beliefs, and yet she doesn't see her husband's true nature. Why do you think this is? Is love really that blind, or does Iris only see what she wants to see?
6. Iris has a special bond with one of her students, Eva, a beautiful teenager who, despite all her wealth and advantages, still can't find happiness. What do you think the author was trying to say with this character? How does Eva's message relate back to the story of Iris and Will?
7. After the crash, Iris finds a friend in Evan Sheffield. Do you think, had they met in other circumstances, that they would have become friends? Or was their friendship a result of their shared trauma and grief? What do you think their relationship looks like a year down the road? Five years?
8. Did the truth about Corban surprise you? If not, at what point did you begin to suspect?
9. Iris says to Will, "I should hate you. I want to hate you. I want to be physically ill because I'm sitting in the same room as you, but I'm not. I don't. I still love you and I despise myself for it." Can you understand how she feels? Have you ever loved and hated someone at the same time?
10. In the last scene, even though the reasons Iris pushes the panic button aren't clear in her mind, she's positive it is the right thing to do. Do you agree? Would you have done the same in her position? Does pushing that button give Iris closure? Where do you think she will go from here?

kimberly | BELLE

Internationally Bestselling Author

Make sure to check out **Stranger in the Lake**, out 6.9.2020 from Park Row Books.



Her riskiest move was saying, "I do."

When Charlotte married the older and very wealthy widower Paul, it caused a ripple of gossip in their small lakeside town. They have a charmed life together, despite the cruel whispers about her trailer park past and his first marriage. But everything starts to unravel when she discovers a young woman's body floating in the exact same spot where Paul's first wife tragically drowned.

At first, her death seems like a horrific coincidence, but the stranger in the lake is no stranger. Charlotte saw Paul talking to her the day before, even though Paul tells the police he's never met the woman. His lie exposes cracks in their fragile new marriage, cracks Charlotte is determined to keep from breaking them in two.

But as secrets, and people, from Paul's past begin to surface, Charlotte uncovers dark secrets that have been simmering under the lake's waters for years. She doesn't know what to trust – her heart who knows Paul to be a good man, or her growing

suspicion that there's something he's desperate to hide.

Purchase links

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/47877595-stranger-in-the-lake>

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07WNX6ZZS>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/stranger-in-the-lake-kimberly-belle/1133065677>

<https://www.indiebound.org/book/9780778388104>

<https://www.kobo.com/us/en/ebook/stranger-in-the-lake>

<https://books.apple.com/us/book/stranger-in-the-lake/id1477319023>

<https://books.google.com/books?q=editions:ISBN0008907390>