

READER'S GUIDE QUESTIONS – LOVE WILL FIND A WAY – Barbara Freethy

1. Nearly every major character in LOVE WILL FIND A WAY is keeping or has kept a secret. Rachel and Dylan kept their kiss a secret from Gary. They discover Gary kept many secrets from them. Carly keeps her love of and talent for art a secret from her family.

Do you think it's possible to have a relationship without some secrets between partners? When have you kept a secret from someone close to you? When is it okay to keep a secret?

2. Compromise is a major theme in LOVE WILL FIND A WAY. Gary lived in the country to be with Rachel although he preferred the city and Carly hid her love of painting to avoid upsetting her family. This contrasts with Rachel and Carly's mother who couldn't compromise on her vision of her life and abandoned her husband and children.

How do you draw a line between your personal desires and those of your loved ones? What is the line between being brave about your choices that may hurt others and being selfish?

3. Many of the characters in LOVE WILL FIND A WAY are impacted by the loss or estrangement of a parental figure. Rachel and Carly's mother abandoned them. Gary's father, who they had assumed was dead, was estranged. Even Gary, through his untimely death, has unintentionally abandoned his son at a young age. Rachel's reaction to this parental loss was to grow roots, Carly's was to deny her life's passion, and Gary's was to lie to his family about his father's death.

Do you think each character was justified in their reactions? Have you been impacted by the loss or estrangement of a parental figure? How did you deal with it?

4. Rachel's family believes the Lady Elaine apples can make a couple fall in love. Many of the women in their family have been happily married to the recipient of the apple, and Rachel believed Gary ate the apple she gave him.

How do you think Rachel and Gary's romance was driven by this family myth? If Rachel had known Dylan had eaten the apple, do you think she still would have married Gary? Why do you think Gary didn't tell Rachel the truth after he knew the family myth?

5. Carly notes to Travis "You can't do love long distance" and uses Rachel's relationship with Gary as an example.

Do you think this is true? Do you think the physical distance of Rachel and Gary's relationship was the cause of their emotional distance or was it something else? Have you ever been in a long-distance relationship and what was the outcome?

Hope these questions spark some great discussion!

Barbara Freethy