DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. From Anna Delvey to The White Lotus’s Ana and Lucia, clever scammers are everywhere. Why do you think we can’t get enough stories about grifters? What makes a good con artist?

2. What did you think of Summer and Leo’s friendship? What’s the wildest thing you’ve ever done for your best friend?

3. What did you think of Michael’s mysterious island? Did it remind you of anything?

4. The past is always present throughout You Can Trust Me—from Summer’s pickpocketing habit to Michael finding Leo. Why do you think the author chose to tell the story the way she did? What did you think of the dual-POV chapters taking place at different times?

5. Both Summer’s and Leo’s parents let them down in different ways. How do you think this affects their bond? Their personalities? Their choices?

6. Who was your favorite character? Why?

7. Discuss the character of Michael. He had two very different public and private personas, and very few people saw the real him. Do you think he was born that way, or did his money and success “recode” who he was? Or did they simply allow his truest form to live more freely?

8. Summer and Leo move through the world guided by a unique moral compass. How would you describe their morality? Did you think their actions were justified, and could you imagine yourself doing the same things in their situation?

9. Summer and Leo do a lot of reflection on classism, the ownership of land, and the burden of possessions. What did you think about their reflections on modern life?

10. What do you think the novel says about the concept of “home”? What is your concept of “home”?

11. What do you think Summer and Leo will get up to in Europe? What’s next for them?

12. Who would you cast in a movie or TV show adaptation of You Can Trust Me?