



UNDER

HER

SPELL

A NOVEL

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AUTHOR OF *SUCH PRETTY FLOWERS*



# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. At the beginning of the novel, Liv is in a liminal state of life, on the precipice of several significant life changes—recently laid off, newly engaged to her longtime boyfriend Noah, and deciding to apply to law school. She is also grappling with anxiety and uncertainty about these choices. How does Liv’s tentative position in life set the stage for the novel’s exploration of agency and free will?
2. Discuss the significance of the letter Liv receives from her childhood best friend, Sam. How does this letter set the tone for the mystery that unfolds in the novel?
3. Consider the significance of the small New England town of Guilford as the setting for the story. In what ways do the town’s history, culture, and community dynamics contribute to the overall mood and tone?
4. Explore the dynamics of Liv’s relationships with Sam, Eden, and Cora. How do these friendships evolve throughout the story, and what role do they play in guiding Liv towards her ultimate truth?
5. Discuss the concepts of family and chosen family in *Under Her Spell*. In what ways do characters navigate their relationships with both biological and chosen family members, and how do these connections shape their perceptions of love, commitment, and identity?
6. How does *Under Her Spell* explore the conventions of marriage and parenthood, and in what ways does feminism intersect with these traditional social constructs?
7. Examine the significance of Sam, Eden, and Cora’s bridal boutique, Beloved, within the narrative. How does the boutique serve as a metaphor for the characters’ personal journeys and relationships, and what deeper meanings can be drawn from their collective “mission”?
8. Analyze the portrayal of dark magic in the story. How does the inclusion of magical elements in the narrative (such as spells, potions, and rituals) add to the tension and suspense of the plot?
9. Though Liv wasn’t able to rescue Sam from the clutches of the Sisterhood, it was Sam’s note that led Liv back to Guilford and ultimately altered the trajectory of her life in a positive direction. How does the narrative illustrate themes of resilience, forgiveness, and the transformative potential of second chances? In what ways do the characters’ experiences reflect the healing power of redemption and the capacity for growth in the face of adversity?
10. Reflect on the novel’s final moments and how they encapsulated the core messages or lessons explored throughout the story. What messages did you feel the author wanted to leave with you?