



THE PRISONER OF PARADISE

ROB SAMBORN

~ Book Club Discussion Questions ~

Discussion Questions for Readers

1. What is/are the central theme(s) of the book? Did it resonate with you?
2. What would you have done if you were in Nick's shoes? What about Julia's? Have you ever been in a situation in which your significant other was convinced of something that you couldn't believe or strongly disagreed with?
3. Though the book is obviously fiction with fantastical elements, did it seem realistic to you? Did you look up anything in the book?
4. Have you ever been so taken with a piece of art or music that you felt attached to it?
5. Many of della Porta's actions are driven by his beliefs and desire to protect the Order. Do you think he's inherently a bad person?
6. After Nick fails, Isabella tells him to kill Julia so that he can be sentenced into the painting alongside her. Was she doing this because she had been imprisoned for so long she'd do anything to be reunited with Angelo? Or was she actually a vindictive soul who would kill anyone who got in the way of her own happiness?
7. Which character did you relate to the most? Who was your favorite character?
8. Have you ever experienced an unexplainable event that you investigated?
9. Why does the countess want to speak with Nick (when she meets him with Paganelli)? What's the opportunity she mentions? Why does della Porta want to silence Nick?
10. What were your favorite scenes? Least favorite?
11. There are a number of open-ended setups in the book, which are intentional. Examples are the asterisk by Angelo's name; who Paganelli is working with; the possibility of redemption; what's in Renzo's black book, and more. Was there anything that you felt unsatisfied with, in terms of payoffs and answers? Or are you excited to see how these things are explained or expanded upon in later books? (The Prisoner of Paradise is the first of a series. Book 2, Painter of the Damned, will be released Oct. 25, 2022.)
12. Did it feel like the Order only operated in Venice? Or is it possible that they're bigger than that?



Questions for the Author

1. What inspired you to write this book? How did you come up with the idea of imprisoning souls in a painting?
2. Why is the number 7 so significant?
3. The flashbacks are not told in chronological order. Why did you choose to do that? Did you write them in chronological order?
4. Is anything in the book real?
5. Have you seen all the locations in the book?
6. Which character do you relate to the most?
7. What are the themes of the book?
8. What's your favorite scene in the book?
9. Are you featuring the same characters in the next books? Which characters were the most fun to write?
10. Where did you get your knowledge of secret societies?
11. What are you working on now?

For additional book club questions, questions about these questions, or answers to these questions, please contact Rob at author@robsamborn.com.

Thank you for reading *The Prisoner of Paradise* and including it in your book club! If you have a moment, please leave a review on Amazon, Goodreads or the place of purchase (if you enjoyed the book)! Debut authors rely on reader reviews and are grateful for each one.