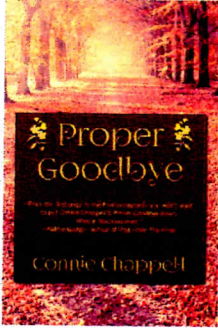


Discussion Questions



About the Book

Book Title: *Proper Goodbye*

Author: Connie Chappell

Published by 4am Books (2016)

Author website: www.conniechappell.com

1. Beebe's mother, Abigail, speaks for herself in the first chapter, *Forget-Me-Nots*. At what other times, throughout the story, did you feel Abigail's voice coming through?
2. The story begins when Beebe is 16 and continues with a chain of events that plays out to a very strange ending 30 years later. Put yourself in Beebe's place. How would you have managed the scenario?
3. Describe the emotions Vincent Bostick felt, knowing the truth about Beebe's mother and torn about how to handle it.
4. People confront and ignore issues that make up the fabric of their lives. How did Beebe, Cliff, and Yates confront and ignore issues related to their lives and that connection to Abigail?
5. The author notes, from the very beginning, that the story's theme is "reflecting on one's dreams and memories." Describe moments from the book when her characters are invaded by memories brought on unexpectedly by a sight or a sound.
6. Imagine you are Cliff Walker. Speak to his emotions when he relives Abigail's "lies at sunset."
7. Yates Strand knows a woman who came and went from his life with regularity. How was his relationship with Abigail the same and yet very different from Beebe's relationship with her mother?
8. Did the presence of Barleycorn provide you comfort? Which characters benefited from Barleycorn's distinct personality?
9. Weigh the story's sorrow and loss with its dose of hope and peace. Did the story leave you with an understanding of Beebe's, Cliff's, and Yates's ability to cope successfully with the situation?