

Finding Love on Bainbridge Island, Washington

by Annette M. Irby

Book two in the Washington Island Romance series

Book Club Questions

1. Liam is a bit of a daredevil. Have you known someone who likes to take risks? Do you? What do you think drives someone to be a bit reckless with their lives and safety?
2. Liam compares himself to his friends and analyzes his own life. Have you ever done that? Is it helpful or harmful? When is comparison helpful?
3. Shea suffers from PTSD, though it's latent in some ways by the time setting of the story. However, some events, like being startled by a talking bird, bring her symptoms to the surface. Shea needs to face her past in order to find a new level of healing. Have you ever had to do that? What brought it on? What finally helped?
4. Years ago, Liam let Shea down when he didn't arrive for their date. That night, she found herself in danger. Later, she decided Liam wasn't trustworthy or responsible. Was that a fair assessment of Liam? Is he responsible and trustworthy? His boss trusts him on construction jobs. Would you trust him for work or relationship (friendship, romance, coworker, etc.)?
5. Liam's dad abandoned him and his mother years ago. Liam decides his dad is a deadbeat and doesn't want to become like him. Is Liam like his father? Do his fears affect how he sees himself? Have you ever struggled *not* to become like someone else?
6. Many of the characters in this novel have changed by the timing of this story from how they used to be, but others still label them based on their pasts. Has this ever happened to you? How did you overcome someone else's negative opinion?

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7. While Shea is in a healing season, she stays at a beach cottage. If you were in a healing season, where would your ideal housing be and with whom? Why?

8. Did you enjoy the setting of Bainbridge Island on Puget Sound? Have you ever been there? What's your favorite spot? Do you have a favorite beach anywhere in the world? Or is your favored location somewhere else?

9. Liam's missing out on his father being a positive influence in his life. Does someone else fill that void? Have there been people in your life who have filled roles someone else vacated? Did their presence enrich your life, and if so, how?

10. Auntie Mat took Liam in when his mother died and he would have been alone. Liam has a strong bond with her, and though she's quirky, he honors her. What motivates him? Are there situations she talks him into he wouldn't otherwise do? Why does he humor her?

11. Since her nephew is now in his thirties and as yet unmarried, Auntie Mat feels it's her responsibility to teach Liam "how to romance a woman." Matilda has chosen Shea. Why? Is it Matilda's place to teach Liam about wooing a future wife? What was her real goal?

12. Aunt Matilda's pet cockatiel, Pearl, echoes what she has heard Matilda say. Have you ever taught a bird to speak? What was one of its favorite sayings? If you could teach a bird one phrase, what would it be and why?