1. Millie is torn between compassion for another human being and loyalty to her country. Does she make the right choice?

2. Which are the most compelling themes in the book for you?

3. Much of the story deals with loss. Which character do you feel suffers the greatest loss?

4. Constable Hanratty is an unpleasant character but he is in the right. Did you want him to succeed or to fail?

5. Do you agree with Millie’s idea that the severity of a crime can only be judged by its consequences?

6. Whose betrayal is worse? Millie’s or Hugh’s?

7. Do you think that Lukas and Millie will find happiness now that the war is over?

8. Joseph Thalhäuser cultivates the friendship with Lukas. Do you think he’s simply carrying out his duty as an MI19 officer or is there more behind his acts of kindness towards his prisoner?

9. The Germans we meet in the story are defeated young men. How does this alter the nation’s opinion of the enemy compared to people living on the continent?

10. When we meet Millie at the end of the book, do you think she’s living in isolation or has she restored her position in the countryside community?

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