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Johnston Public Library Book Discussion Questions

The Last Letter from Juliet by Melanie Hudson

Summary

This is a note to yourself, Juliet.

You must keep the memories alive, because once upon a time you told a man called Edward Nancarrow that you would, and it's important to keep that promise.

A daring WWII pilot who grew up among the clouds, Juliet Caron's life was one of courage, adventure – and a love torn apart by war. Every nook of her Cornish cottage is alive with memories just waiting to be discovered.

Katherine Henderson has escaped to Cornwall for Christmas, but she soon finds there is more to her holiday cottage than meets the eye. And on the eve of Juliet's 100th birthday, Katherine is enlisted to make an old lady's final Christmas wish come true.

Discussion Questions

1. What did you think of the book overall? Did you enjoy reading it? Why or why not? Did it hold your interest?
2. Did you have a preference for Juliet or Katherine? Were both stories equally compelling? Did you find one more or less interesting than the other?
3. Discuss your favorite or least favorite parts of the story. Did anything about the book surprise you? Or was it too predictable?
4. What did you think of the author's choice to reveal both characters' stories at the same time? Would you have preferred to read about them more chronologically? Did the author's approach make the story more or less compelling?
5. Juliet's story is based on the true story of the Spitfire Girls. Were you familiar with them before reading this novel?

6. One reviewer wrote about the trope of strong female characters – as though women in books have to be written stronger than women in real life. Did you find Juliet and Katherine to be unlike women you know in your everyday life? Or, were they typical of other women you have known?
7. Do you often read historical romances? If so, did you find this book typical of that genre? If not, did reading this book inspire you to read more historical romances?
8. Melanie Hudson wrote: *Some days come along in life that are so significant they stay with you for eternity. Such days remain as bright and clear in my mind's eye now as on the day itself and usually fall into two categories—days so terrible I would rather forget them, or days so wonderful I want to remember them forever.* Are there days in your life you will never forget? Are these happy memories or sad ones?
9. Were you satisfied by the ending of this book? If not, how would you have wanted the author to wrap it up?
10. Will you read other books by this author? Why or why not?

Summary from GoodReads.com
Discussion Questions provided by JPL staff