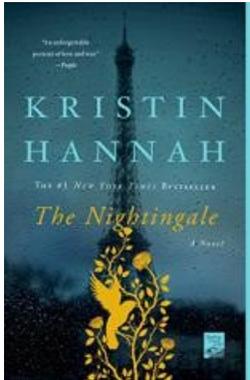


Lillie M. Evans Library District Book Club

November 27, 2017

Biography:



Kristin Hannah was born in Southern California in September 1960. Before becoming a full-time writer, she worked in an advertising agency and practiced law in Seattle. Hannah and her mom began writing a novel together when her mother was suffering from cancer. When her mother died, she put the draft away and continued to practice law. While pregnant with her son and on bed rest, she took out the draft that she and her mother had written and began to write in earnest. Her draft was done by the time she gave birth. In 1990, she became a published writer and has been writing ever since. She has published more than 20 novels and has won numerous awards including the Golden Heart, the Maggie and 1996 National Reader's Choice award. Two of her books are being made into feature films, *The Nightingale*, and *Home Front*. She lives in the Pacific Northwest and Hawaii with her husband. (Bowker Author Biography)

Similar Resources:



Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think the author chose to keep the narrator's identity a secret in the beginning and end of the novel? Were you surprised by who it turned out to be? Did you go back and reread the beginning of the novel once you finished?
2. Who do you admire --- or relate to, or sympathize with --- more, Vianne or Isabelle? Why or why not?
3. Have gender roles changed much since World War II? Have women always been strong in the face of adversity, but not recognized for their efforts? Vianne says that "men tell stories...women get on with it." Do you agree with her?
4. Is it better to take a risk and fail than never try at all? Do you think you could have acted as heroically as Isabelle under such horrifying circumstances? Who is more heroic in your mind?
5. Is Beck a sympathetic character? Did you believe he was a good man, or was he just trying to seduce Vianne? Did he deserve his fate?
6. Discuss the scene in which Ari is taken away. What do you believe is the right answer in this situation --- if there is one? What would you have done in Vianne's position?
7. Do you think Julien had a right to know who his real father was? Would you have made the same decision Vianne did?
8. Which scenes moved you the most? Which character's fate would you say was the most tragic? The most harrowing? And finally, what will you remember most about *THE NIGHTINGALE*? (*Questions issued by publisher.*)