



Circles

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Topics of Discussion for Book Clubs

Circles is the final piece in a five-book series. However, if you did not read the other books, did you feel as though you could jump right into this storyline?

If you did read previous books, did “Circles” answer any lingering questions from the previous storylines?

Magical realism is a genre of literature that depicts the real world as having an undercurrent of magic or fantasy. Is that aspect important to the storyline?

How does your understanding of reincarnation affect your perception of the book?

Do you believe that souls exist? Do you believe in reincarnation? If so, did that create more believability in the novel?

If you do not believe that reincarnation exists, did that cause a lack of connection to the story line? Or did it not matter?

In creating this series, the author’s intention was to have a gradual revealing of the characters. Each novel gives more insight into the main characters. Does this bring things into focus, as you read through the other books? Or does it cause confusion?

This author does not elaborate on the actual physical aspects of her characters. Does not knowing exactly how a character looks cause the reader to create their own image?

The author emphasizes the internal self over the external self. Does this help to open up your relationship to the characters? Or does it cause a disconnection?

The connecting theme throughout all five books is that to compensate for a “losing” there is always a “finding.” However, the findings are not always obvious to the characters. Often they are not connected until looked upon, later on, in reflection. Which characters experienced that element?

Meg Pedersen Owens is the link that binds throughout all five books. However, Meg is “in person” in only the first three books, Elke’s Magic, Mandy’s Dream and The Final Canoe Ride. How is she still a viable “main” character in Split Soul and Circles?

Did Circles resolve as you had expected? Was the reader left hanging? Or is the reader open to new possibilities for the characters?

Think about an alternate ending. How would you complete the circle, if you chose a different path for the characters?