

# Questions for your book club

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- To what extent is this a novel about revenge?
- *'You just want to look after them...'* Mel says in the prologue. Is Mel looking after Liam, or is she looking after what she wants him to be?
- *'She wasn't my only friend, or even my best friend, but she was my favourite.'* Do we have different friends for different times in our lives? Should we ever go back and revisit old friendships?
- *'That's what friends do though, don't they? Forgive your moments of crazy recklessness or selfishness...'* Is Mel right? Where do the lines of forgiveness get drawn in friendship?
- Abi has been unable to have children with Rob and longed for a family of her own. Do you think she would have behaved the same way had she been a mother herself?
- At what point should we let children become adults?
- *'Real friends tell it like it is,'* thinks Mel. Do they? Should we always be truthful with our friends?
- Mel and Ben respond differently to news of the affair. Is their reaction typical of their gender? Do you think Ben's reaction might have been the same if everything if everything that happens had happened to his 17-year-old daughter, rather than his 17-year-old son?

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- *'His wife had lied to him their entire marriage.'* Ben is angry and hurt when the identity of Liam's father is revealed. What do you think of Mel's reasons for keeping the father of her child a secret?
- *'It was only when she thought she might lose the baby that she began to develop some understanding of what she had subjected Mel to.'* Does Abi really understand what she's done at the end? Will being a mother change her?