

The Snow Trillium Book Club Questions:

1. The three main characters of *The Snow Trillium*, Jillene, Danielle, and Margo are very different. In what ways? In what ways are they similar? Whose story did you identify with the most?
2. In life, we often have an ideal, and then there is reality. How did this play out in each of the characters' lives?
3. Setting: How did the setting contribute to the overall feel of the novel? The house, the Mississippi river, Hastings, and Minneapolis. And how did the seasons lend itself to creating different moods?
4. History: Many of the places Margo mentions were actual places. Have you researched the local history of where you live? How does understanding the past of the community that you live in help you understand your community today? Or does it?
5. Symbolism: Flowers: Besides, the snow trillium, many other flowers were mentioned throughout the book. Can you think of some places in the story where flowers were strategically placed to add depth to the story? During Victorian times, flowers carried meanings. If you'd like to know more about it, check out the book: *Floriography: An Illustrated Guide to the Victorian Language of Flowers* by Jessica Roux. Or google Victorian flower meanings for each flower mentioned below.

Some examples (there are many mentioned throughout the novel):

- Page 26 (dancing petunias and cornflowers)
 - Page 35 (tiny chamomile flowers)
 - Margo's journal-Page 69 (The bouquet was composed of the palest of pale roses, radiating the scent of longing. They were surrounded by bachelor buttons, which reminded me of the shade of the summer sky and his eyes.)
 - Snow Trillium: Did the last chapter of the book, where Jillene discovers a field of snow trillium, resonate with you? Did you like how the snow trillium was mentioned in each character's life? Hint: page 138 for Danielle
6. Nurses: Did you feel the novel depicted the nursing profession of labor and delivery well? Do you learn anything about nursing that surprised you from the novel? Did you ever take a dream job and find out it wasn't all you expected?
 7. Side characters and cemeteries: Who was your favorite side character and why? Do you feel like cemeteries are a thing of the past as more people are cremated? Is this a beneficial change or a loss for our communities? Why or why not?
 8. Grief: This book covered some difficult topics like premature infant labor and loss, losing a sibling in a car accident, and losing someone in war time. Have you experienced any of those issues or known someone who has? Do you think that it is beneficial for women to talk more about their pregnancy losses and miscarriages? How do you feel society views these?