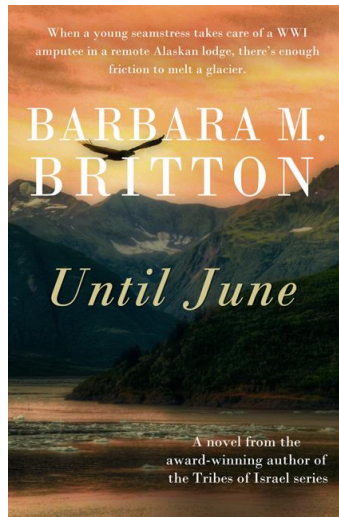


## Discussion Questions

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### UNTIL JUNE

Author: Barbara M. Britton

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### About the Book

When seventeen-year-old seamstress, Josephine Nimetz, agrees to take care of a WWI amputee in a remote Alaskan lodge, there's enough friction to melt the Mendenhall Glacier. Her position is only until June, and it pays well enough to overlook the hardship of managing a rustic home and a shell-shocked veteran.

Geoff Chambers makes it clear that he isn't too fond of the "runt" sent to take care of his needs, nor of her painful mistakes. Dealing with a depressed and addicted veteran, pushes Josephine to the brink of leaving, if not for the money her salary brings.

But Josephine is a perfectionist, determined to get Geoff back on his feet—figuratively...Although, sending a rich, handsome veteran back into society may cost Josephine the man she has grown to love.

TITLE: Until June

Discussion:

Question 1: 1. Have you ever taken care of someone who had a lot of needs? What was that like for you?

Answer 1: I have taken care of people who had injuries. It can be draining and tiring to meet someone's needs, especially for long periods of time.

Question 2: 2. Josephine travels to the lodge and forfeits seeing her family for several months. She even misses celebrating Christmas with her mom and sister. Have you spent extended time away from family? Is it a good thing, or a difficult endeavor?

Answer 2: Spending time away from loved ones can be beneficial. You realize how much they mean to you. But, loneliness can set in, too. A support team and new friends can help you battle loneliness.

Question 3: 3. Josephine grows up in a family where her stepfather has issues with addiction. Addictions can take over lives and ruin them. Have you ever dealt with addiction? Have you had addiction in your family? What was that like for you?

Answer 3: I had family members with addictions and several holidays were ruined because of alcohol-laden fights. I still get tense around people who have had too much to drink. Addictions are frightening. Prayer and professional help is required.

Question 4: 4. Have you ever been to Alaska? What do you think it is like? What descriptions stood out to you when you read "Until June?"

Answer 4: I was in Alaska on a cruise ship and heard a story that inspired me to write "Until June."

Question 5: 5. Would you have gone out to a remote lodge with Geoff? What were the most difficult situations Jo dealt with dealing with Geoff? How did he change throughout the novel?

Answer 5: Geoff needed a lot of care. Josephine had good reasons to take the position as a caregiver, but she didn't know the severity of Geoff's addiction and his flashbacks. I'm glad Jo stayed at the lodge.

Question 6: 6. How did Josephine change throughout the novel? What was she able to do at the end of the book that she didn't do in the beginning?

Answer 6: Josephine became bolder and developed self confidence at the lodge. She wrote a story while continuing to care for Geoff and sew a wedding gown.

Question 7: 7. Who is your favorite character in the novel? Why do they resonate with you?

Answer 7: Answers will vary.

Question 8: 8. What is your favorite scene in the book? Do you like the humorous scenes or the suspenseful ones?

Answer 8: I like humorous scenes. I laughed at Geoff's critiques of Jo's story.

Question 9: 9. What reasons does Jo give to Geoff to keep on living even though he has lost his legs? Can you think of more reasons to encourage Geoff?

Answer 9 God is our Creator and Sustainer. It is easy to get discouraged with life especially if you are in pain. We can do all things through Christ who gives us strength--Philippians 4:13. Psalm 104 talks about God as sustainer. Ecclesiastes 3 talks about only God knows our number of days. Life is worth living. God can use us in His Kingdom even if we have a disability.

Question 10: 10. This book is based on a true story and an actual lodge—the Taku Lodge outside of Juneau, Alaska. Have you visited a place that would make a nice setting or story for a novel?

Answer 10: Answers will vary. I'm thinking of old Western towns.

