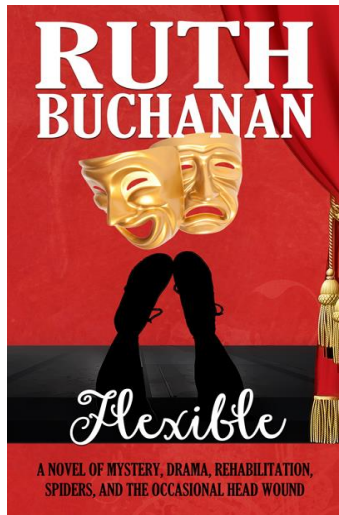


Discussion Questions



FLEXIBLE

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About the Book

Summer's over, and Rachel Cooper is back! Limping staunchly into the fray, she's determined to develop flexibility in more than just her stiff ankle. With Lynn and Ann at her side, she tackles the challenges of the new school year with her own unique blend of panicked bravado.

With new students, new classes, and--could it be?--the possibility of new love in her life, she's already got plenty to keep her flailing. But there's more. While fulfilling her role as director of the school's fall play, she begins to suspect that not all the drama is playing out onstage. Uncovering a series of unsettling clues, she works to solve the backstage mystery before the final curtain falls.

TITLE: Flexible

Discussion:

Question 1: Do you see any obvious signs of change in Rachel between the events of Collapsible and Flexible?

Answer 1: Answers will vary.

Question 2: Do you consider Lee's emotional responses to Rachel's actions throughout this book appropriate? Is he overreacting?

Answer 2: Answers will vary.

Question 3: Who shows the more grace to Rachel: Lynn, Ann, Ian, or Lee? Why?

Answer 3: Answers will vary.

Question 4: Which of Rachel's students do you identify with the most? Why?

Answer 4: Answers will vary.

Question 5: Do you believe that Rachel is fair in her personal assessments of Sharon Day? Why or Why not?

Answer 5: Answers will vary.

Question 6: Ms. Martinez, the school principal, raises concerns regarding Lee and Rachel working together. Do you support or oppose her decision to raise this issue on a professional level?

Answer 6: Answers will vary.

Question 7: If you could have a conversation with Jessica Potts's mother, what would you say to her?

Answer 7: Answers will vary.

Question 8: If you're familiar with Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*, note some similarities between the play and *Flexible*.

Answer 8: Answers will vary but may include eavesdropping; misunderstandings; mountain-out-of-a-molehill scenarios; characters who second-guess one another, etc.

Question 9: What is likely at the root of Rachel's inability to pay attention in church?

Answer 9 Self-absorption.

Question 10: Consider the title of the book: Flexible. In what areas do you see Rachel developing flexibility?

Answer 10: Answers will vary, but might include in her relationships, personal life, willingness to admit she's wrong, desire to change, etc.

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