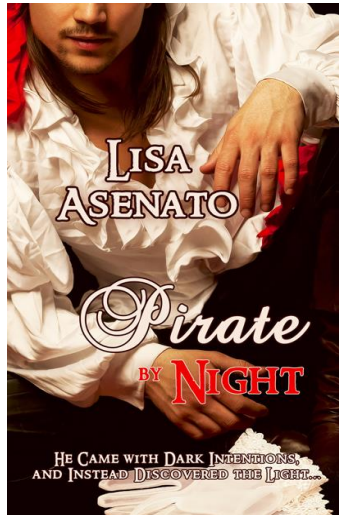


Discussion Questions



PIRATE BY NIGHT

By Night Series

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About the Book

His uncle wanted him dead. Instead, Nicholas Collington was given to pirates.

Robbed of his rightful title and position, Nicholas survived. Now he rides the high seas, helping the wronged and avenging the downtrodden while the man who stole his life goes unpunished. But it's time to reclaim his title and lands...time to make his uncle pay. However, to get close enough, Nicholas has a role to play.

Grace Thonburg is a gentle soul. Ostracized by the Ton after an accident leaves her maimed, she is content to minister to the villagers with her dear friend and elderly vicar, Finn. But Finn must leave, and a new vicar has arrived--A man so powerful and handsome that Grace is attracted to him in ways she hardly understands. She has accepted that she will never find love, but is this new vicar heaven sent? He seems unconcerned with her past or her position in Society... Yet, she senses he's hiding something.

After Nicholas assumes the role of the town's new vicar, his desire for revenge pales when compared to the desire he feels for Grace. But she is a lady, and he is a pirate.

He loves her unconditionally, but can he win her heart or will the weight of Nicholas's secret quash their new-found love?

TITLE: Pirate by Night
Discussion:

Question 1: Do you believe it is reasonable for a person who feels intensely wronged to desire to seek revenge?

Answer 1: Yes.

Question 2: Is Grace using her disability as an excuse to hide from society, or is she sincere in her love for the villagers?

Answer 2: I see Grace as someone who is sincere in her desire to help others. She has been through a horrible experience and has been able to put her trust in God. She has become a sweeter person as a result of her difficulty.

Question 3: Unlike Grace, Nicholas's ordeal has made him bitter and blood thirsty. What might attribute to the difference in which Nicholas and Grace respond to adversity?

Answer 3: Many things can contribute to their responses to their unique trials. Factors such as their personality types or their individual strength and constitution. But ultimately for Grace, I believe it was her deep, abiding faith, and the loving support of Finn, that helped her accept her lot, and be content. Poor Nicholas was abandoned at a time when he should have been experiencing the security and unconditional love of his family. Nicholas had no one, but his own personal code of honor in which to rely upon.

Question 4: When Nicholas first meets Sebastian after his years at sea, he is surprised by his own mixed emotions. What might account for those feelings?

Answer 4: Nicholas observes the ravages of time on Sebastian and how his once strong uncle has been made weak by life and unfortunate circumstances. I also believe Nicholas being a man of the world has a level of maturity that he did not possess as a boy and it causes his dilemma. Although his wish for revenge is still strong, he seems to have lost his will to actually kill a man.

Question 5: When Nicholas learns the truth about Grace's accident and her subsequent forgiveness of the robber, he cannot comprehend such a thing. What event or events change his thinking?

Answer 5: I think Nicholas is stunned that adversity can be met with forgiveness. Grace exemplifies this in her life and demonstrates it as she forgives the robber who's actions have maimed her hand. Once Nicholas meets the robber and sees that he too is a victim of circumstance, he realizes he has compassion on the man and his sick daughter. For Nicholas, the dawning has begun.

Question 6: Some have said that Nicholas's exoneration at the end of the novel is unfair, and that he has not paid the penalty for his crimes. What do you think?

Answer 6: I feel this is the essence of the novel, as children of God, we often suffer different trials and tribulations, but just as Nicholas forgave Sebastian, he too was forgiven by God. There will always be those who wish an eye for an eye, but we know Jesus did not operate that way.

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