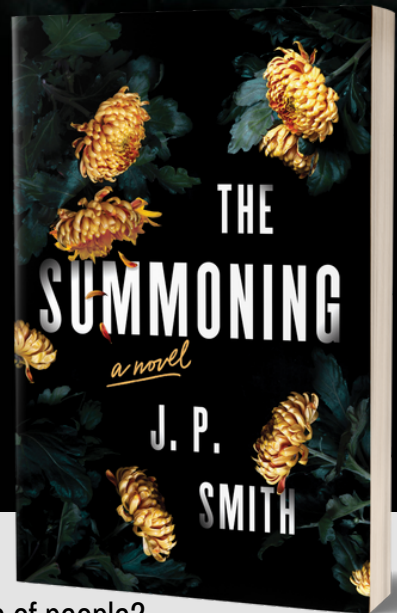


THE SUMMONING

J. P. SMITH

READING GROUP GUIDE



1. What was your first impression of Kit's séances? Do you agree with the way she justifies her work, or is she just taking advantage of people?
2. Is working with a medium a good way to find closure, or does it trap you in the past? Which of Kit's clients exemplify your position?
3. How does Kit cope with Zoey's long incapacitation? Is there anything you would do differently in her position?
4. Describe Tony Cabrini. What do you see as his dominant personality trait? How does that trait shape his actions throughout the book?
5. Kit muses that every grief is private, yet the words we use to define it are often the same. Do you agree with her? How can we support other people even if we cannot truly understand their grief?
6. Did you approve of David's methods of investigating Kit? What boundaries should undercover investigators abide by? Do you think those boundaries would have significantly changed the outcome between Kit and David?
7. Kit is uncomfortable with the increasing reality of her medium work. What strategies does she use to try to understand what is happening to her? Is there anything else you would have tried in her position?
8. Kit's acting career is a severe detriment to her financial stability. In her position would you still be auditioning? Where do you think she gets her ability to persevere? Is her determination good for her?
9. How do dating conventions and gender roles disguise David's suspicious behavior in the early stages of his relationship with Kit? How can we make dating more equitable?
10. Compare Kit to Alison Ingalls. Do you think they caught David's attention for similar reasons? What is the biggest difference in the way the relationships played out?
11. Tony threatens to take Kit in for "resisting arrest," and Barbara Ingalls points out that David's status as a detective protects him from the consequences of his affairs. Do you think these corrupt detectives are common? Do you think they would face appropriate consequences if they were caught misusing their power?
12. Do you think all the characters got the ending they deserved? If you could change the outcome for one character, whose fate would you change, and how?