

# AND THERE HE KEPT HER

BY JOSHUA MOEHLING  
DISCUSSION GUIDE

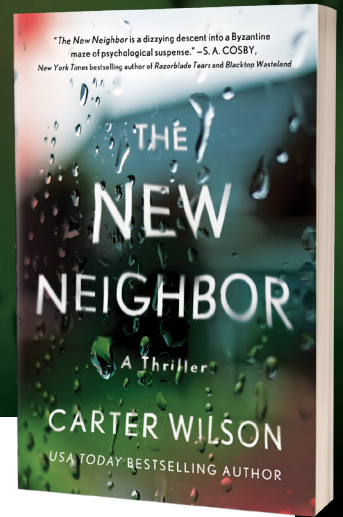


1. Despite a family connection to Sandy Lake, Packard wonders whether the decision to move there was the right one. Why is he conflicted? How does his reasoning about his motivation evolve over the course of the book?
2. Characterize the feud between Gary and Cora. How do they each feel about the other at the beginning of the book? Has anything changed by the end of it?
3. Though they were together for over a year, Packard and Marcus never openly discussed their relationship. Why do you think that is? After Marcus dies, how does Packard feel about the relationship?
4. Why did Emmett kidnap Wanda and the jogger? What did he want from them? Do you think he's being honest about his intentions or his recall of what happened?
5. Describe Packard's relationship with the locals (Gary, Cora, the sheriff, Susan). Do any of them really know him?
6. Emmett is a morally complex character: he somehow manages to play both the role of perpetrator and victim. Did you ever feel sympathy for him? Why or why not?
7. While he's not ashamed of his identity, Packard assumes that his sexuality could complicate his job. How does Shannon's revelation that the whole town already knows he's gay confirm or contradict those assumptions?
8. Emmett and Carl have been begrudging allies for years. Outline their similarities and differences.
9. The bond that Emmett starts to feel for Jenny is a strange one. Describe his feelings. How does his opinion of her change, and why?
10. What do you think happened to Packard's brother?

# THE NEW NEIGHBOR

BY CARTER WILSON

## DISCUSSION GUIDE



1. What would you do if you won the lottery? Would that change if your win came after terrible news like Marlowe's?
2. Like his father, Marlowe always plays the same lotto numbers, but Marlowe's numbers each represent something significant to him. If you were to use significant numbers from your own life, what would they be and why?
3. In choosing Bury, Marlowe leaves behind everything he knows. Why did he do that, and what are the unintended consequences for himself, Bo, and Maggie?
4. Threatening notes would be disturbing no matter what, but how did you feel about the signature: WE WHO WATCH? How does the suggestion of a group change the way Marlowe investigates?
5. Despite the threats and the house's unsettling history, Marlowe refuses to consider selling. Why? Would you cut your losses in his position?
6. Describe Marlowe's parenting style. How does his concern for Bo and Maggie manifest itself?
7. The security advisor triggers Marlowe's paranoia. Would you be willing to fill out the invasive questionnaire? Did you see an alternative?
8. List Marlowe's coping mechanisms. How many of them are self-destructive?
9. How did you feel when you found out how Christopher died? If he'd lived, what kind of man do you think he would have become?
10. Marlowe believes in fate and superstitions. Do you? If everything happens for a reason, how would you explain the end of the book?
11. Characterize Chief Sike. How did your first impression of him compare to your feelings at the end of the book?

# THE LIES I TELL

BY JULIE CLARK

## DISCUSSION GUIDE



1. One of the most powerful tools in Meg's arsenal is a familiarity with social media. What do you think she could learn about you from your online presence?
2. Since they both know the other woman is lying about her identity, Meg and Kat also know they shouldn't trust each other. How does their friendship grow despite this?
3. Discuss the role of ego in Meg's cons. How do her targets create openings for her with their own bad behavior?
4. At first, Kat blames Meg for what happened with Nate. When do you think she stopped feeling that way?
5. The greatest downside of Meg's career is the loneliness. Do you think she could have kept in touch with her friends when she started scamming Cory? How would you feel in her position, moving cross-country every few years and not making any permanent connections?
6. Meg believes that scamming Phillip to return Celia's cottage was a turning point in her career. How was that job different from the others she had run?
7. Why does it take Kat so long to recognize that Scott has relapsed? Where would you draw the line between supporting a partner who is trying to overcome an addiction and protecting yourself?
8. Kat doesn't trust that Scott will be investigated by his colleagues. Is there incentive for police departments to investigate their officers and detectives? What motivations do they have to sweep corruption and violence under the rug?
9. Meg posits, "The difference between justice and revenge comes down to who's telling the story." What does she mean, and do you agree with her?
10. What's next for Kat and Meg? Do you think Kat will succeed in her new quest? Will Meg really retire from cons?