

Questions for Book Discussion

Circle of Friends

by Maeve Binchy

1. Why do you think Maeve Binchy titled this book CIRCLE OF FRIENDS?
2. Were you able to follow the many stories that Binchy introduced and all the characters presented therein?
3. Sister Francis and Mother Clare. Describe their relationship with Eve. Describe Eve's relationship with them.
4. Religion and class structure ... what role did it play in Nan and Simon's relationship and break-up? Other examples: 1) Eve's mother's relationship with her family due to her marriage to Eve's dad, 2) Nan's liaison with Jack.
5. Name the couple whose relationship worked throughout the book.
6. Since this book is about many characters and their relationships with each other, name your favorite person and least favorite person in the book. Reasons for this.
7. Binchy made the stories interesting using support characters that are different in age, occupation, social standing, and education. Discuss some of them. Examples: Mr. and Mrs. Foley, Sister Francis and Mother Clare, Kit Hegarty and Joseph, Heather and Simon, Sean Walsh and Dorothy Healy, Mossy and Patsy.