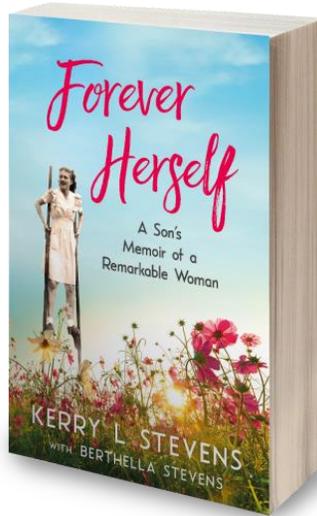


Forever Herself

Discussion Questions for Book Clubs



Introductory Questions

- Overall, how did you experience the book while reading it?
- How would you describe its central theme(s)?
- Which passage(s) was your favorite? Why?
- What are your thoughts on the cover and title? How well do they represent the book?

Characters

- How would you describe Berthella? What aspects of her character did you find the most appealing or repelling? Why?
- How would you describe Kerry? What aspects of his character did you find the most appealing or repelling? Why?
- In what ways are Berthella and Kerry similar or different from each other?
- How does he or she grow or change during the book? What causes the change?
 - In what ways does he or she remain unchanged? Why?
- Were there other characters you admired or disliked? Why?
- Who in the book would you most like to meet? What would you ask or say?
- If you equated Kerry's childhood with a TV show, what would it be? Why?
- If you were making a movie of this book, who would you cast?

Craft of Writing

- How well is the setting reflected in the text? Do the era, location, and culture feel authentic?
- Do you find the author's (Kerry) "voice" appealing? Why or why not?
- We often think of life occurring in seasons. How well did the portrayal of seasons in Berthella's life advance the story?
- How does the author's use of a timeline, which moves backward and forward, affect your enjoyment of the story? Was it an effective narrative device? Why or why not?
- Why do you think Kerry felt compelled to share his mother's story? And his own? How does his motivation for writing the book affect your view of the story?
- How did you feel about the ending? Is there anything you wish had been different?
- How is this book similar or dissimilar to other memoirs you have read?

Connections with Your Life

- What did you learn from reading this book?
- What aspects of the author's story could you most relate to?
- Which character is most like you? In what ways?
 - Do the characters remind you of anyone else in your life? In what ways?
- How has this story changed your view of your own life? Or another family member?

Concluding Questions

- Are you glad you read this book? Why?
- Would you recommend it or consider it as a gift to someone else?

Thank you for reading *Forever Herself*. If you enjoyed it, please consider leaving a review on Amazon, Goodreads, or another site of your choice. You may also contact the lead author, Kerry L Stevens, at www.KerryLStevens.com/contact.