

Book Club Discussion Questions Of Literature and Lattes

1. Alyssa's friend Lexi states, "Things are only as small as you make them." Would you agree? Would the converse be true too, that things are only as large as you make them?
2. Alyssa talks about "confirmation bias," seeing what she expects to see regardless of an objective reality. Do you believe she is right, that we can perceive situations and people as we want to see them rather than how they are?
3. The author stresses the concept of "home" throughout *Of Literature and Lattes*. What are different meanings of "home" each character seeks? How do you define "home?"
4. Perspective is an important theme in *Of Literature and Lattes*. How does Alyssa's perspective change? Janet's? Jeremy's? Krista's? How much do each misjudge in the beginning? How clearly does each see things in the end?
5. Early in the story, Alyssa states — and later Jeremy thinks the same thought — that people can't change. Do you agree or disagree? Do you feel if either Alyssa or Jeremy were asked at the end of the story, they would change their answers?
6. *Of Mice and Men* plays a crucial role in Jeremy's journey. What are some of your thoughts on Steinbeck's themes in the novel of loneliness,

community, marginalization and connection with *Of Literature and Lattes*?

7. Lexi states, “People are far more complex than the boxes we put them in.” Comment on the boxes Alyssa puts Janet in and Jeremy put Ryan in. How did their perceptions blind them?
8. Early in the novel, Alyssa comments that mother and daughter relationships are complex. She then admits after her time in the hospital that Janet was the only one she wanted near. Did her feelings towards her mom change or was she more aware of what was always there?
9. How complex or simple are mother-daughter relationships?
10. Janet declares to Jeremy that “Reading is therapy.” Would you consider that true? What novels have been therapeutic for you?
11. What made Ryan return to Andante?
12. Why did Alyssa go to the Sweet Shoppe, despite being told by the FBI not to contact her? Could you stay away?
13. Would you like to visit Winsome again?