

Book Discussion Questions

1. How does the novel's prologue, set during a police interrogation, establish the tone and expectations for the story?
2. If you were in Sara's position, how would you respond to Rosie's instructions to take her ashes to Sicily and uncover the truth behind a century-old death?
3. In the early 1900s, how do the relationships between women, such as Serafina and Cettina, illustrate the ways they supported each other?
4. Although Serafina dismisses superstitions, they significantly influence her life and community. In what ways do these beliefs shape the events and characters in the novel?
5. Which romantic relationships in the story did you find most compelling, and how are they influenced by the cultural and temporal settings?
6. Giusy's perspective on Penelope challenges traditional narratives. Are there other mythological or historical figures you believe deserve a reinterpretation?
7. Giusy emerges as a significant character throughout the novel. What are your thoughts on her motives and actions? Would you have approached situations differently in her place?
8. Sara reflects on the challenges of being ambitious while fulfilling her roles as a mother and businesswoman. Have you encountered similar conflicts in your life? How did you navigate them?

9. What motivations and dreams do Serafina and Sara share, despite the differences in their time periods?
10. Which plot twists or revelations in the novel caught you off guard, and how did they alter your understanding of the story?
11. How did the novel's depiction of connections between granddaughters and their deceased grandparents resonate with you?
12. In what ways does Sara evolve throughout her journey in Sicily? What positive traits does she develop or enhance?