

## Discussion Questions

### *Mrs. March* by Virginia Feito

1. What are your initial impressions of Mrs. March? What are your initial impressions of George March?
2. Mrs. March's mother tells her "numerous times, that a healthy marriage is built from the outside in, not the other way around" (p. 19). Why do you think Mrs. March married George? Do you find their relationship "healthy"?
3. Consider Mrs. March's predicament: her husband may have written a detestable character based on her. How would you react if you were in her place?
4. Throughout the course of the book, the narrator never refers to Mrs. March by her first name—even in flashbacks to her childhood. What do you make of this?
5. How does author Virginia Feito establish Mrs. March as an unreliable character? While reading, did you see deviations from objective truth or reality?
6. What is the significance of Mrs. March's mint green gloves? What do you make of the book's cover?
7. Consider Mrs. March's relationship to her son, Jonathan. How might her own childhood affect the way she treats, views, and feels about Jonathan?
8. As Mrs. March's paranoia ramps up, readers are met with an array of horrific images and scenes. How did these moments effect you? Would you categorize the novel as a thriller, horror, or something else?
9. In chapter 12, Mrs. March recalls a professor saying, "Art is intention. . . . Art has to move you. In any way—positive or negative. Appreciating art is really just about understanding what the piece set out to do. You don't necessarily want to hang it in your living room" (p. 73). Mrs. March doesn't know how to interpret these words. How do you interpret them? Do you agree with the professor? Why or why not?
10. One review of George's book says that "the reader is drawn in immediately, a gleeful, almost active participant in [Johanna's] downfall" (p. 264). Are there any parallels or similarities between *Mrs. March* and what we know of George's book? Between Mrs. March and Johanna?
11. Mrs. March begins to see her "friend," Kiki, as the story unfolds. What do you make of Kiki? Why does Mrs. March start to see her again?

12. Is the final scene in the novel fated or inevitable? Could something have been done to prevent Mrs. March's actions?  
What do you think will happen to Mrs. March after the final pages? What do you want to happen to her?

Questions from Reading Guide on Penguin Random House Canada website.