

Discussion Questions

The Nest by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney

1. Just how dysfunctional is the Plumb family...and why? Why do the siblings allow Leo to have such power over them? If you could advise any or all four of them, how would you counsel them about living their lives?
2. At the beginning of the book, each of the siblings has a drink at a Manhattan watering hole before meeting the others. What do those moments reveal about them?
3. Melodie, Beatrice, Jack and Leo all have behaved somewhat (or very) irresponsibly. Is there one of them with whom you sympathize more than the others? Or are they all caught up in a sense of their own entitlement?
4. How would you live your life if you knew you were to receive a fair amount of money down the line?
5. Talk, too, about the secondary characters and the roles they play in the story: grandchildren, Jack's husband, Melody's husband, Leo's girlfriend, and Bea's boss.
6. Ultimately, this book is about defining ourselves as individuals within a family (or even a career). How does each character learn who he or she is and what ultimately makes for a fulfilling life?

(Questions by LitLovers)

