

# BOOK CLUB in a bag

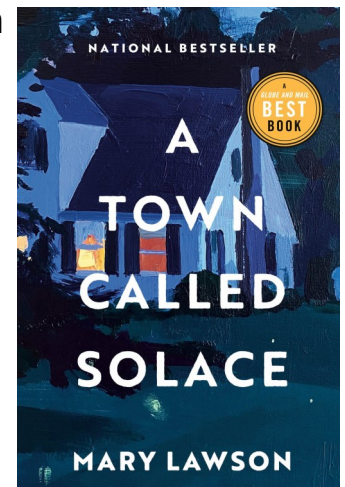


## A Town Called Solace

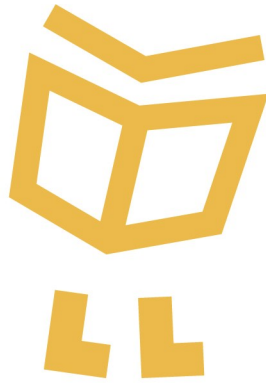
Mary Lawson

### Discussion Questions

1. How much empathy did you have for Elizabeth and how much of what she said did you believe?
2. What do we learn about attitudes to the elderly from the conversations that Elizabeth and Martha have?
3. What chance does the relationship between Liam and the librarian have of being a successful one?
4. Was Liam right to advise Karl's son to go back to university?
5. Very little is said about what happened to Rose when she is brought home. What do you think about this decision?
6. Do you think the technique of using different narrative voices to tell the story is successful? Why or why not?
7. Would you enjoy living somewhere like Solace? Why is somewhere like Solace a good or "not so good" place to live?
8. To what extent do you think Liam's adult personality fits with the childhood he experienced, assuming that we believe, to some extent at least, Elizabeth's and his own portrayal of what occurred?
9. What is the significance of the cat in the novel?
10. Which character in the story do you have the most empathy for and why?



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## About the Author

Mary Lawson was born and brought up in a small farming community in Ontario. She is the author of the nationally and internationally bestselling novels *Crow Lake*, *The Other Side of the Bridge*, and *Road Ends*. *Crow Lake* was a New York Times bestseller and was chosen as a Book of the Year by *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*, among others. *The Other Side of the Bridge* was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize. *A Town Called Solace* is her fourth novel. Lawson lives in England but returns to Canada frequently

Via Penguin Random House (<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.ca/authors/16923/mary-lawson>)

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