

# BOOK CLUB in a bag

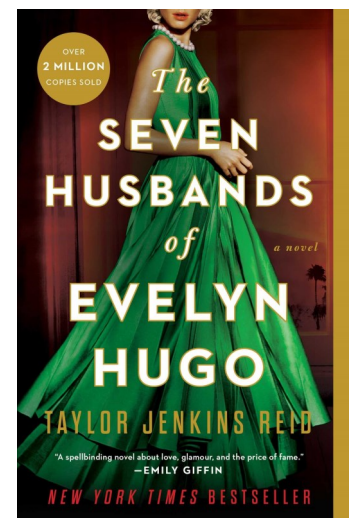


## The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo

Taylor Jenkins Reid

### Discussion Questions

1. From the beginning, Monique is confused as to why Evelyn has selected her to write Evelyn's biography. While you were reading the book, what were some of your theories as to why Evelyn specifically chose Monique? Were you surprised upon learning of the truth behind her reasoning? What was your opinion of Evelyn in that situation, and of the way she decided to inform Monique?
2. As we find out by the book's end, Celia St. James was Evelyn's true love and not one of her seven husbands. Did you see this storyline coming? What did you like or dislike about Celia and Evelyn's love story? Did their need for secrecy frustrate you while reading the book? Do you think this was a common occurrence in Hollywood, or do you still think it is today?
3. Each husband's section opens with an illustrative moniker (for example, "Poor Ernie Diaz," "Goddamn Don Adler," "Agreeable Robert Jamison"). Discuss the meaning and significance of some of these descriptions. How do they set the tone for the section that follows? Did you read these characterizations as coming from Evelyn, Monique, an omniscient narrator, or someone else?
4. Late in the book, Monique observes that "I hate Evelyn, but I think I like her very much." What about you? Did you like her? Did you hate her? Both?
5. What role do the news, tabloid, and blog articles interspersed throughout the book serve in the narrative? What, if anything, do we learn about Evelyn's relationship to the outside world from them?
6. What did you think of Monique? Do you think she changed as a result of meeting Evelyn? Why?
7. Of the seven husbands, who was your favourite, and why? Who surprised you the most?
8. Did you trust Evelyn to be a reliable narrator as you were reading? Why, or why not? Did your opinion on this change at all by the conclusion, and if so, why?
9. Review the scenes on pages 199 and 348, in which Evelyn relays memories of conversing in Spanish after years without speaking it. Discuss the role language plays in her understanding of who she is. In what ways does her relationship to her Cuban identity parallel her experiences with her sexuality, and in what ways does it differ?
10. The book explored themes such as sexual orientation, gender, spousal relationship, friendship, betrayal, domestic abuse, and the cost of fame, to name a few. Which theme impacted you the most?



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## About the Author

Taylor Jenkins Reid is the author of the *New York Times* Bestselling novels *Carrie Soto Is Back*, *Malibu Rising*, *Daisy Jones and the Six* and *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo*, as well as *One True Loves*, *Maybe in Another Life*, *After I Do*, and *Forever, Interrupted*. Her books have been chosen by Reese's Book Club, Read with Jenna, Indie Next, Best of Amazon, and Book of the Month. Her novel, *Daisy Jones and The Six*, is currently being adapted by Hello Sunshine into a limited series for Amazon. She lives in Los Angeles.

Via the author's website (<https://taylorjenkinsreid.com/about/>)

Sources: <https://www.alphasigmaalpha.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/January-The-Seven-Husbands-of-Evelyn-Hugo.pdf>; <https://libromaniacs.com/the-seven-husbands-of-evelyn-hugo-book-club-questions/>; <https://arlenesbookclub.com/the-seven-husbands-of-evelyn-hugo-book-club-discussion-questions/>

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