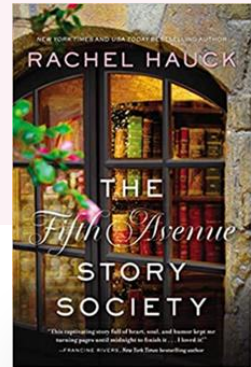




PARTICIPANT GUIDE

THE FIFTH AVENUE STORY SOCIETY BY RACHEL HAUCK



"Story doesn't have to be written... It can be told. Every day we listen to, live, and breathe stories. What we're doing right now is a story. People who would've otherwise never met are sharing a moment."

JETT WILDER



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



1

Q. Which of the five characters, Lexa, Jett, Ed, Coral and Chuck, did you relate to the most? Why?

2

Q. "Go on in. Discover your story." (p27). Would you accept an invitation to a mysterious society? Are you an extrovert who might have been ready and willing to form fast friends, or are you more introverted or reserved in front of strangers?

3

Q. "Courage isn't the absence of fear... It's going forward anyway." (p14). Fear is a theme in 'The Fifth Avenue Story Society'. Did you recognise any of your fears in the fictional characters? Share some strategies you may have used to help overcome your fears.

4

Q. "Isn't it nice, Lexa, when someone steps up once in a while? It doesn't make you less strong to need and accept help" (p153). Can you relate to Lexa's unwillingness to accept help? Or do you gladly accept help when you need it?

5

Q. *Chuck's Story*, Family Violence is a severe and genuine issue many women and children face today. When we meet Chuck and learn his story - which includes a terrible outburst of anger, with a weapon, in front of his children - we also see a very heartbroken, regretful and repentant man who would do anything he could to take it back. Living with the consequences of our sin can sometimes feel unbearable, and his ex-wife Trudy rightly or wrongly withholds his children from him.

Who did you sympathise with more? Trudy for protecting her children, or repentant Chuck desperately seeking forgiveness and a second chance with his kids? Why?

6

Q. *Lexa's Story*; "Here we are in our thirties dealing with childhood wounds" (Lexa, p261). Have you found yourself as an adult, "dealing" with childhood wounds? How did you experience freedom from addressing issues in your past?

7

Q. *Jett's story*; Jett is haunted by the ghost of his dead brother (p264) and burdened by the broken relationship with his mum (p260). Can you relate to Jett's feelings of abandonment and betrayal? How did you find the courage to forgive the person who hurt you?

8

Q. *Coral's Story*; "The God sized hole in her soul was too vast and deep for any man to fill. Except her saviour" (p321). Do you struggle to allow God to fill that 'God sized hole' in your soul?

9

Q. *Ed's Story*; "You actually have a great love story. You loved when it wasn't easy." (p339). Can you share a time in your life when you have been unconditionally loved by someone or have loved someone else unconditionally yourself? Especially when it was hard and/or underserved?
