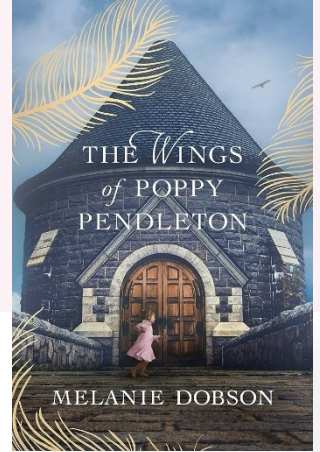




# PARTICIPANT GUIDE

## THE WINGS OF POPPY PENDLETON BY MELANIE DOBSON



*"Flames whip in fury, royal embers caged in brass.  
Soaring, searching, wondering, beating against the glass.  
Secrets, she whispers in the storm.  
Secrets, she boldly sings.  
But no one hears her voice, they only see her wings."*

**AMELIA PENDLETON**



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

Q. What was your favourite part of this time-slip mystery? Did you prefer one timeline over the other?

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2

Q. The disappearance of Poppy is the main narrative in the story. Poppy's story, beginning with her abduction, is one of abuse and heartache. However, when we meet Birdie as an elderly lady, she is free from her past. What made her transformation possible?

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3

Q. Amelia feels like a caged bird trapped in an unloving marriage in the fortress of Koster Isle. Amelia makes many poor and selfish decisions with complicated consequences. When does she realise her mistakes? How does God redeem her life and past errors?

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Q. Chloe's heart breaks for Emma and her circumstances. How are Chloe and Emma similar? How are they different?

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5

Q. Do you think it was right for Cade and Miriam to keep so many secrets from Chloe? How did Cade's letter enlighten Chloe and help her to heal?

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6

Q. Nana Miriam is a selfless and wise woman. How did her wisdom guide Chloe through life's storms?

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Q. Good vs. Evil is a theme in the novel. Which characters made decisions for good, and which made intentional decisions towards evil? How is this different to making mistakes?

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8

Q. Read the poem *God of the Open Air* by Henry van Dyke on page 290. How can beautiful literature and poetry help us to heal? If you have a favourite poem, share it with the group.

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9

Q. "No one knew what went on sometimes in families. The good and the bad. No one could possibly understand except those who had lived through it" (p186). Can you relate to this quote? If you're comfortable, share a time when your family has endured a time of trial.

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10

Q. "God had begun mending their brokenness into something beautiful like only a good Father could do" (p328). What part of this redemption story moved you the most? Do you feel like the light in the story outweighed the darkness?

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