

## ***Forgiving Tess***

### **Book Group Questions**

Thank you for choosing '*Forgiving Tess*' for your book group.

I hope you enjoyed reading Josh and Tess's story and that these questions serve to bring further discussion to your book group experience.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. For the person who chose the book: What made you choose this book to read and then discuss in a group? Did it meet or exceed your expectations?
2. What aspects of Tess's personality intrigued you? Why?
3. What aspect of the book, characters, or story did you find to be challenging?
4. Did this remind you of another book or author? Who/ what/ why?
5. Who were your favorite characters? Why?
6. What characters did you dislike? Were there any characters that you didn't relate to? Why?
7. How did Uncle Stu serve as a support and challenge for Tess to move ahead in her life?
8. What relation(s) did you notice between Tess's personal life and her professional life?
9. Which character from the book would you like to meet the most and why? What would you like to ask or tell them?

## ***Forgiving Tess* Book Group Questions (continued)**

10. What about Josh did you find to be relatable? Was there anything about him that you didn't relate to or found frustrating?

11. What feelings did this book evoke for you? Why/ how was this accomplished?

12. Describe your response/ reaction to Brody and Tess's relationship. What aspects stood out?

13. Why do you think Tess and her parents struggled to get along? What were some key things that helped them get back together?

14. Did you relate to the struggle Tess faced in forgiving herself? How so?

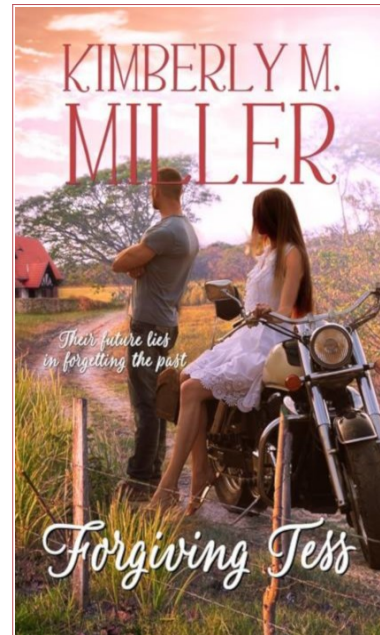
15. Have you noticed any ways your church/ community/ neighborhood/ friend group has struggled to accept others who are different or may have a troubled past? Or have you noticed ways that these groups have been inspiring and helpful in this same context? In what ways can we learn from Tess's experience and apply to our own place in the world?

16. What was your favorite quote or passage, and why did it stand out to you?

17. What nuances of finding/ offering/ accepting forgiveness did this book raise?

18. If this book were made into a movie, who would you cast? What changes would you want to see happen to work more effectively for film?

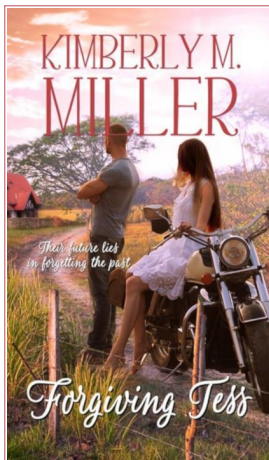
19. Does this book remind you of any songs, artist, or other media? If so, what and why?



### ***Forgiving Tess* Book Group Questions (continued)**

20. Did you think the characters and their problems/decisions/relationships were believable or realistic? If not, why?
21. Did you find any of the characters' decisions to be frustrating? Why?
22. Which character could you relate to the best and why?
23. Did you learn anything new, maybe about yourself or a societal issue that is prevalent today?
24. Make a prediction regarding Tess and Josh's future. This can be in light of their relationship, their immediate or extended family, or even in terms of career.
25. If this book inspired a sequel, which characters would you like to see more of?

***Get in touch with me, let me know which characters you loved and want to see more of.***



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