

For Eden's Sake-Book Study Questions for Homeschooling, Youth Groups, and Book Clubs

*Note to youth leaders and teachers: You can pick and choose the questions depending on the purpose of your instruction and the age group of your students/readers.

Character development:

Characters-specific: Determine which characters you wish to discuss, either from the list given or others- Isaac, Kevin, Rebecca, Tess, other.

How important was forgiveness in this novel?

Explain the relationship transition between Isaac and Rebecca.

Compare and contrast Isaac's friendship with Kevin vs. Rebecca's relationship with Tess.

Why do you think that Isaac was reluctant to have a relationship with Rebecca?

Describe how Rebecca's relationship with her father affected her decision to have an abortion?

Describe the struggles of each of the following characters and how they relate to each other and the theme of the book as a whole- Isaac, Rebecca, and Tess.

In what ways did Isaac try to support Rebecca?

What event do you believe caused Rebecca to change her mind?

Why was Rebecca's change of heart so difficult for Tess to accept?

Explain all the moments within the story where forgiveness was demonstrated.

How do you feel about Isaac's decision to forgive Rebecca and try to make their relationship work?

Which character was your favorite and why?

Which character do you feel was the strongest emotionally and why?

Characters-general:

Were you able to relate to any of the characters portrayed and in what way?

Were the characters believable?

Was there any experience in the novel that you feel you can apply to your own life experience?

Do you find this novel valuable? Explain your response.

Which character made the biggest transition, in your opinion?

Which character made the smallest transition, in your opinion?

Spirituality:

How is the verse Psalms 139:13-15 reflected throughout this story?

In your opinion, how well does the author portray the presence of God in the everyday lives of the characters?

Is the author successful in presenting faith in a relevant and relatable way?

Give an example of each of the following Catholic values and explain where they were best presented in the novel: chastity, temperance, charity, forgiveness, patience, kindness, humility

Book Structure:

Discuss some of the narrative devices that the author uses? E.g. Flashbacks, foreshadowing, first person narration, plot twists, dialogue, and imagery. Do they work?

Do these narrative devices help move the story along or are they just distracting to the story?

Style:

What can you say about the author's writing style?

Discuss the narrative style.

What are some of the noticeable themes in the book? How did the author develop these themes? Were these methods effective?

The Author:

How well did the author take you into the story?

Was the use of description effective?

Could you envision each character?

Could you envision the setting?

Did you find this novel enjoyable?

Would you recommend it to a friend? Explain your response.

Does this book prompt you to want to read more from this author?

Quotes:

Which character quote did you find most effective?

Which character quote do you feel is the defining message in the novel?