



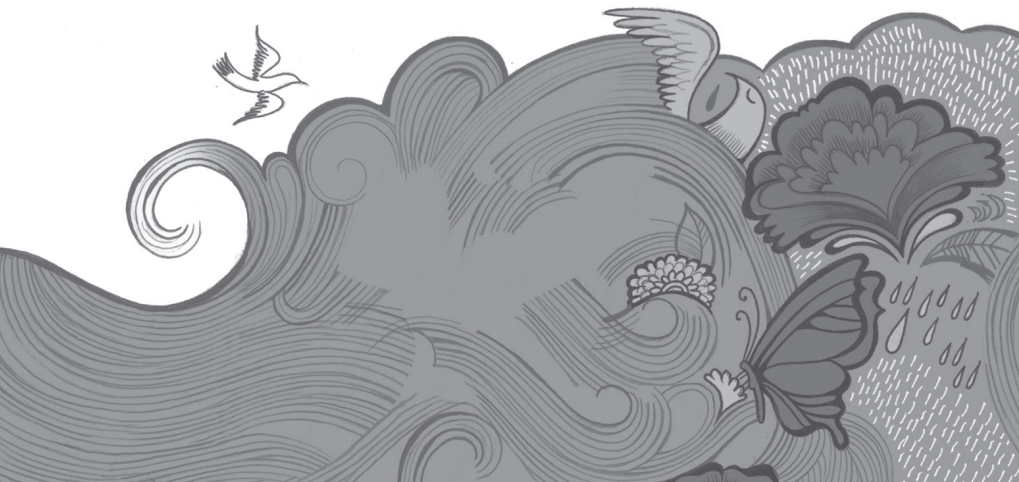
If you enjoyed

The Dead Wife's Handbook

and would like to discuss it with your friends,
please turn over for our reading group questions.

Reading Group Questions

1. The novel is narrated by a deceased character. Do you think this made you more critical of the living characters' actions than if the narrative was told from their point of view?
2. How do you think Max handled introducing Eve into Ellie's life? Did you think he let his new relationship distract him from other responsibilities?
3. Were you surprised when you learnt about Eve's infertility and estrangement from her parents? Did that knowledge make you more sympathetic to her? And do you think her parents should have behaved differently?
4. Did you feel that Harriet and Celia's initial reactions to Eve were justified?
5. Were you rooting for Max and Eve's relationship to be a success or were your sympathies with Rachel?
6. If you were in Rachel's position do you think you could ever feel comfortable with another woman taking your place?



7. Do you think that Eve would make a good stepmother for Ellie? What did you like or dislike about their relationship?
8. The novel implies that there may be a future romance between Harriet and Connor. Do you think they'd make a good couple?
9. Do you think the book paints an accurate portrayal of grief? Was the use of the seven stages of grief helpful in segmenting the narrative?
10. Rachel ultimately comes to terms with the fact that life will continue without her. Is that how you expected it to end and, if not, what had you been hoping for?
11. One of the lasting messages of the book is that close relationships are more important than external achievements. Do you agree?
12. The title of the novel is 'The Dead Wife's Handbook'. What did you think about the lessons Rachel feels she's learnt at the end of the novel? Did you agree with them?

