



Jacob's List

by Stephanie Grace Whitson
ISBN-10: 0-7642-0326-6
ISBN-13: 978-0-7642-0326-8
Trade Paper; \$12.99; 304pp.
Release Date: August 2007



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR READERS

1. Do you have a list—either mental or written—of things you'd like to do before you die? What's the most outrageous thing on that list? (Beware: This exercise resulted in Stephanie getting her motorcycle endorsement and buying a Honda Magna over twelve thousand miles ago.)
2. Has one of your children been involved in extreme sports? Were you able to support them or did you try to talk them out of it? Would you do it differently now?
3. How would you answer the question Ken Randolph asks Stan about “where was God when this happened”?
4. Have you ever been in a position to try to comfort a friend who has just experienced a devastating personal loss? From your experience, share some things a friend can do to give meaningful help at such a time.
5. Share your personal view of heaven. (Author's recommendation: *Heaven* by Randy Alcorn)
6. What message would you most want to impart if you were going to speak at a funeral? Would you read Scripture? If so, which verses come to mind?
7. Do you agree or disagree with Betty Novac, who insists that God has given answers to the great questions of life, but that people just don't like the answers. Why?
8. What do you like about the Novacs' “Ninja” service project? If you wanted to follow their example, what kinds of things might you try? Have you ever done the kind of “Ninja service” Tomas practices in the book?
9. How do Betty Novac and Rainelle Washington's roles in Pam's life differ? What can be learned from the way these women interact to enhance our own friendships with other women? If you had to choose between Betty or Rainelle, which friend would you want and why?
10. Pam experiences fear about many things as this story progresses—among them fear of a recurrence of cancer and fear of trusting Michael again. How would you counsel her as she tries to work through her fears? What can friends do for friends at a time like this besides “just giving advice”?
11. Pam found solace in gardening. Where do you find solace?
12. What will you take away from the experience of reading *Jacob's List*? Share a new idea, a new understanding, or a plan of action that has resulted from your reading this book.
13. Who was your favorite character? Why? What was this character's greatest weakness?
14. Who did you like least? Why? What was this character's best quality?
15. With which character did you most identify? Why?
16. What was your favorite scene and why?