

# ***Rock Paper Scissors*** by Alice Feeney

## BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | In <i>Rock Paper Scissors</i> , the concept that “Marriages don’t fail, people do” is central to the plot. As both Adam and Amelia are unreliable narrators, the reader is left questioning whose side to take. At the beginning of the novel, were you initially more sympathetic towards Adam or Amelia? What led you to change your mind, if at all? Did your perception of the characters shift as the story progressed? Can we ever really trust the perspective of an unreliable narrator? |
| 2 | <i>Rock Paper Scissors</i> features letters written to Adam by his wife on their anniversary each year, letters she has never let him read until now. Each one begins with a “word of the year.” Which was your favorite word of the year and why?   |
| 3 | Adam is highly superstitious; he salutes magpies and would never walk under a ladder. Are you superstitious about anything? Adam also carries an old paper crane and a lucky penny in his wallet at all times. Do you believe in luck? Is there something sentimental you would feel lost without?   |
| 4 | “We are our parents’ echoes and sometimes they don’t like what they hear.” All of the main characters in this novel have been haunted by their parents in one way or another. Why do you think none of them were quite able to move on with their lives and put the past behind them? Would things have been different if they had?  |
| 5 | What was your favorite twist in the book?  |

# ***Rock Paper Scissors*** by Alice Feeney

## BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS, CONT'D.

6

Alice Feeney is a highly acclaimed author, known for her gripping and suspenseful thrillers that keep readers on the edge of their seats. If you've read any of Feeney's other works, such as *Sometimes I Lie*, *I Know Who You Are*, or *His & Hers*, which of her books did you enjoy the most, and why? How does *Rock Paper Scissors* compare to her other works in terms of style, tone, and themes?

If you haven't read any other work, will you now that you've read this book?

7

The setting of the novel, a remote chapel in Scotland, is almost a character in itself. How does the location contribute to the story's atmosphere and overall tone? Could the story have taken place anywhere else?

8

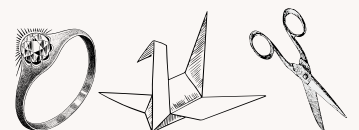
Adam's wife believes that keeping secrets is a necessary part of any successful marriage. Do you agree with this statement? Can we ever truly know everything about another person, even those we love the most? How do secrets impact a relationship, and can they ultimately lead to its downfall? In what ways do the characters in *Rock Paper Scissors* struggle with their own secrets and desires?

9

How did you feel when Bob disappeared?

10

Did you catch the last little ode to "Rock Paper Scissors" at the end when the private investigator (Sam) discovers the headstone?



# ***Rock Paper Scissors*** by Alice Feeney

## "WORD OF THE YEAR" LIST

**Limerence** (An involuntary state of mind caused by a romantic attraction to another person combined with an overwhelming, obsessive need to have one's feelings reciprocated.)

**Shenanigans** (Secret or dishonest activity or maneuvering. Silly or high-spirited behavior; mischief.)

**Growlery** (A place of refuge or sanctuary for use while one is feeling out of sorts. A private room, or den, to growl in.)

**Biblioklept** (A person who steals stories. A book thief.)

**Hornswoggle** (To get the better of someone by cheating or deception.)

**Mensch** (A good person. Someone who is kind and acts with integrity and honor.)

**Chuffed** (Feeling happy or very pleased.)

**Discombobulated** (Feeling confused and disconcerted).

**Atelophobia** (The fear of not doing something right or the fear of not being good enough. An extreme anxiety of failure to achieve perfection.)

**Monachopsis** (The subtle but persistent feeling of being out of place. Unable to recognize your intended habitat, never feeling as though you are at home.)

**Metanoia** (A transformative change of heart. The journey of changing one's mind, self, or way of life.)

**Insouciant** (Free from worry, concern or anxiety; carefree.)

**Redamancy** (The act of loving the one who loves you; a love returned in full.)

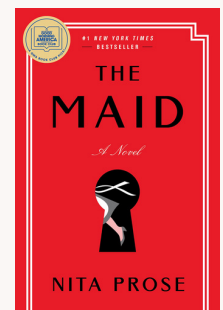
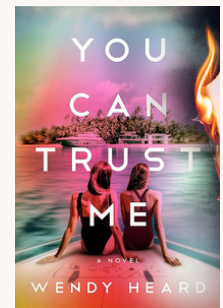
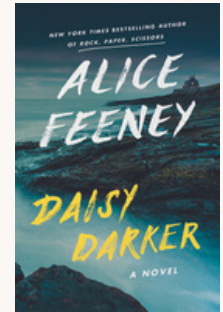
**Schadenfreude** (Pleasure, joy, or self-satisfaction derived by someone from another person's misfortune.)

# ***Rock Paper Scissors*** by Alice Feeney

## SIMILAR BOOK SUGGESTIONS

### **ADULT**

- **"Daisy Darker" by Alice Feeney**
- "His and Hers" by Alice Feeney
- "The Housemaid" by Freida McFadden
- "The Villa" by Rachel Hawkins
- "What Lies in the Woods" by Kate Alice Marshall
- "Jackal" by Erin E. Adams
- "Small Town Sins" by Ken Jaworowski
- **"You Can Trust Me" by Wendy Heard**
- "How Can I Help You" by Laura Sims
- "You Shouldn't Have Come Here" by Jeneva Rose
- "The House Across the Lake" by Riley Sager
- "The Paris Apartment" by Lucy Foley
- "The Guest List" by Lucy Foley
- "Then She Was Gone" by Lisa Jewell
- "The Stranger Upstairs" by Lisa M. Matlin
- "Local Woman Missing" by Mary Kubica
- "The Last Thing He Told Me" by Laura Dave
- "All Good People Here" by Ashley Flowers
- **"The Maid" by Nita Prose**
- "Zero Days" by Ruth Ware
- "The Woman in Cabin 10" by Ruth Ware



### **YOUNG ADULT**

- "Four Found Dead" by Natalie D. Richards
- "Five Survive" by Holly Jackson
- "Nothing More to Tell" by Karen McManus
- "The Cabin" by Natasha Preston
- "Truly Devious" by Maureen Johnson
- **"A Good Girl's Guide to Murder" by Holly Jackson**
- "The Weight of Blood" by Tiffany D. Jackson
- "Sadie" by Courtney Summers
- "One of Us is Lying" by Karen McManus

