

When We Were Friends

Book Club Discussion

As the story opens, Frannie and Lexi are, in many ways, strangers to each other. If you had been with them on the day of their reunion, would you have advised them to reconnect or encouraged them to go their separate ways? Why?

On the surface, Lexi appears to have had an easier road than Frannie, yet she is more fragile. Do you think Frannie's choice five years earlier to protect Lexi helped her recovery or hurt it?

What's the most extreme thing you've ever done for a friend? What drove you to make that choice?

If you could choose one friend from your past with whom to reconnect/catch up/make amends, who would it be? Did this story make you consider reaching out to this (or any other) friend?

Do you identify more with Frannie or Lexi? Why?

Frannie becomes enmeshed in multiple relationships as she builds her "temporary" life in Licking. Which relationship, other than her friendship with Lexi, do you think drives the biggest change in Frannie?

In the earlier timeline Frannie turned to crime to help her friend, and in the recent timeline, her friends did the same thing for her. In either of those circumstances, would you have broken the law for someone you loved? If not, what alternative would you have chosen?

Jack Greene went to great lengths to reconnect with Frannie. Do you think he was motivated by regret, revenge, need for forgiveness, or something else? Do you think what he did could ever be forgiven?

Who was your favorite secondary character? What drew you to him/her?

How do you envision Frannie's life in five years? At that point, what do you think her relationship will be with: Lexi? Seth? Her mother? Bettina?