

Misdirection Book Club Questions

1. The novel alternates between Olive's past and present. How does this structure enhance the story? What insights do we gain about Olive from seeing these two timelines side by side?
2. Olive struggles with trust throughout the novel. How have her past experiences shaped her ability to form connections with others? How does this affect her relationships with Jason, Tevin, and others?
3. The title "Misdirection" has multiple meanings in the story. What are some of the ways misdirection plays a role in the plot? How does it connect to Olive's upbringing and her current profession?
4. What do you think about Jason and Olive's relationship? Do you think they have a future together despite their complicated past and Olive's nomadic lifestyle?
5. Olive discovers her father may have been a con artist rather than an FBI agent. How does this revelation affect her? Do you think we inevitably follow in our parents' footsteps, or can we forge our own paths?
6. Jason tells Olive, "I think we decide every day who we are. We define ourselves with every choice we make." Do you agree with this perspective? How do we see this theme play out in the novel?
7. The novel features several antagonists with different motivations (Adriana, Claudine, Sonny). How do their various goals and backgrounds create complexity in the story?
8. Olive works undercover and frequently lies as part of her job. Where do you see the line between necessary deception for the greater good and problematic dishonesty? How does Olive navigate this line?
9. How has Olive's loss of her family shaped who she's become? Do you think she's dealt with her grief in healthy ways?
10. The novel ends with a mysterious text about who killed Olive's family. What predictions do you have for future books in this series? What questions are you most eager to see answered?
11. Olive remarks, "I take on a different personality wherever I go . . . I suppose I have an identity crisis." How does this chameleon-like ability serve her professionally while potentially harming her personally?
12. The novel explores advanced technology that could be weaponized. What thoughts do you have about the balance between technological advancement and the potential for misuse? How does this reflect real-world concerns?