



# KINGFISHER

## Book club guide

### Questions for discussion



1.

How did you feel about the relationship between the poet and the protagonist? Did you think it was one of convenience?

Love? Both?

2.

The protagonist is quite a complex man, and his behaviour throughout the novel is problematic at points. Did you find you were able to empathise with him by the end of the book?

3.

The protagonist describes the world around him with a lot of sensory detail, in particular he is always thinking about how things smell. What do you think is the significance of this?



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4. Did you feel able to relate to the women in the book, despite seeing them through a man's eyes?
5. What role do you think Michael plays in the protagonist's life? Is it a positive one?
6. Do you think the protagonist feels any guilt for writing the poet's story? Should he?
7. How did you interpret the final scene with the poet?
8. The two main characters in the novel are both writers. What do you think the significance of this is? Does it impact the way the protagonist behaves towards the poet?
9. How did you interpret the relationship between Michael and Hetty? Could you understand their motivations?
10. If you could give Jessica one piece of advice what would it be?