

The One You're With Discussion Questions

1. Did you have a favorite character in the story? One who lit up the page or who you empathized with the most? Was there a character you didn't like?
2. In her opening chapter, Edie ponders the different path her life could have taken if she'd gone to design school in New Orleans instead of attending Southern College with Mac. Has there been a time when you've looked back at a pivotal decision and wondered what life could have looked like if you'd made a different choice?
3. When Edie's sister Blanche takes a photo with Edie and their mom, Edie wonders about the falsehood of social media—the difference between a polished life online and actual reality. Have you had a situation where you've assumed one thing based on what you saw on social media only to find out the truth was very different?
4. Dr. Abraham Fitzgerald is Mac's mentor, for both his personal and professional life. Have you had someone like that in your life?
5. Have you ever had to take a leap of faith—in your job, in a relationship, or something else—in the hopes of finding more freedom or opportunity?
6. What did you think about how Mac, Edie, and Graham each handled the shock and stress of all the new revelations in their lives? Have you ever had to deal with a secret from the past that was kept from you, either on purpose or by accident?
7. What did you think about Graham? Did you think he had an ulterior motive for asking Edie to go into business with him? And do you think there's truth to Edie's friend Judith's comment about it being hard to remain "just friends" with someone after a certain age?
8. After learning about Riley, Edie wonders if she'd rather have remained blissfully ignorant of Mac's secret, or if she would rather know the truth, even though it changed everything? If you were in a similar position, do you think you'd rather know the truth, no matter how ugly, or remain happily in the dark?
9. What do you think of the title in regards to what happens in the story? Can you think of another title that would have worked well?
10. Where do you see life taking each of the characters after the book ends? Do you like endings that tell you how everything works out, or do you like open endings?