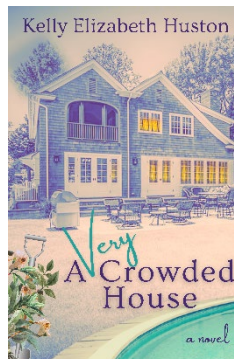


**A Very Crowded House**  
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Book Club Discussion Starters



**The Role of Setting:** The Hamptons setting plays a significant role in the story, almost becoming a character itself. How does the setting contribute to the atmosphere and tension of the novel? Discuss any symbolism or descriptors you noticed related to the setting and how they enhance the themes of the story.

**The Role of Monsters:** Who do you believe were the actual monsters (if any) in the story?

**Exploration of Family Dynamics:** The novel revolves around the concept of found families. Discuss the dynamics between the Durand siblings and their unconventional family structure. How does their past shape their relationships, and what do you think the author is saying about the nature of family?

**Themes of Love:** Discuss the many forms of love exemplified in the novel and what acts, good, bad, or indifferent, were perpetrated in its name? By whom?

**Impact of Rumor and Gossip:** Rumors and gossip play a significant role in shaping the characters' perceptions of each other. How do rumors about Asher's personal life affect his interactions with Jocelyn and others? What commentary do you think the novel offers on the nature of gossip and its consequences?

**Themes of Moral Ambiguity:** Some characters make morally gray choices in the story; others might be outright immoral. How do those actions leave you at the end of the story?

**Resolution and Closer:** Reflect on the ending of "A VERY CROWDED HOUSE." Did you find the resolution satisfying? Were there any loose ends or unanswered questions that left you wanting more? How does the conclusion tie together the various threads of the story, and what themes does it leave the reader with?

**Casting:** I don't cast my characters, particularly the principal ones, but I love to hear what readers see when reading my words.