



Discussion Guide

Gentle on my Mind: A Caribou Crossing Romance
by Susan Fox (a.k.a. Savanna Fox and Susan Lyons)

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Caribou Crossing Romance series Book 3

[Look for Book 1, *Caribou Crossing* (June 2013) and

Book 2, *Home on the Range* (August 2013)

Book 4, *Stand by Your Man* (June 2014)

Book 5, *Love Me Tender* (December 2014)

Book 6, *Love Somebody Like You* (October 2015)

Book 7, *Ring of Fire* (June 2016)

Book 8, *Holiday in Your Heart* (October 2016)]

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These questions are available for download (in PDF format) from my website.

Thanks so much for reading *Gentle on my Mind*. I hope you enjoyed the third story in the Caribou Crossing Romance series. I'm happy to provide bookmarks and autographed bookplates for any of my books. Just send me your name and address. Please visit my website for info on other titles, insights into how each book came about, excerpts, reviews, recipes, a monthly contest, and other fun stuff. You can also subscribe to my e-newsletter.

Now, let's talk about *Gentle on my Mind*. I suggest you skim through the questions and pick the ones that interest you the most.

1. *A woman with a past.* Brooke isn't the standard romance heroine. She's older and she has a past. What's your sense of her as a girl and a young woman? What kind of wife and mother was she?
2. *White picket fence.* Brooke has changed a lot in the past few years. In what ways has she changed and how did those changes come about? At the start of the book, you see her living behind a white picket fence. In what ways is that fence symbolic of her lifestyle?
3. *A dark and dangerous man.* What did you think of Jake when you were introduced to him? Can you relate to his behavior when he threatened Brooke? Should Brooke have called the police or 911 despite Jake's order not to? What's her motivation in obeying him, and how does Jake figure out how to control her?
4. *A.A. meeting.* Why is Brooke so adamant about going to her A.A. meeting that first night? Why does Jake let her? Does Jake's relationship with Jamal play into his decision to let her go?
5. *Mother and grandmother.* Brooke and her son Evan have a troubled past. What's their relationship like now? How does their past affect it? Have Jess and Robin influenced that relationship?
6. *Mutual trust.* What stages does Brooke go through in coming to trust Jake? What stages does he go through in coming to trust her? How do those stages relate to each of their pasts and personalities?
7. *An older woman.* Brooke is several years older than Jake, a grandmother, a recovering alcoholic, and she has bipolar disorder. What does Jake see in her? Is his attraction to her believable?
8. *Not the guy she had in mind.* Brooke wasn't sure she'd ever want to marry again—but she did have an idea of the kind of man she might be looking for. What is that man like? Why does she think she might be happy with a man like that? How does Jake differ? Why is she attracted to him?

(please turn over)

9. *Acting on the attraction.* Why does Brooke first have sex with Jake? Why does he first have sex with her? How does their relationship evolve emotionally over the course of the book?
10. *Sunny, the cat.* What role does Sunny play in Brooke's life? Are there similarities between her relationship with Sunny and her relationship with Jake?
11. *Involving a civilian.* Is Jake wrong to involve Brooke in his investigation by taking her up on her offer to provide him with a new cover story? Why does he do it? Why does she want to do it?
12. *Jake and Jamal.* Describe Jake's relationship with Jamal through Jake's eyes and through Brooke's. Does it change over the course of the book?
13. *Life undercover.* What do you think of the life of an undercover police officer? Why would someone do it? What kind of personality does it take, and how does it affect the officer's personality and relationships? How long do you think someone should do that kind of job, and what might make him or her switch to a different kind of police work?
14. *Parting of the ways.* When the murderer is caught, Jake leaves Caribou Crossing to return to work in Vancouver. What are his and Brooke's feelings about his departure? Once he's gone, how do they each handle the separation?
15. *Three little words.* Why does Brooke tell Jake she loves him, just when he's leaving? How do her words affect him then, and later?
16. *Having a baby.* If a person has a physical or mental illness that is or may be hereditary (or, though she/he doesn't have the illness, it runs in the family), should that person conceive a baby? What considerations should go into the decision? Do you agree with Evan and Jess's decision? Do you agree with Brooke's?
17. *A woman's decision.* In Brooke's circumstances, do you think it's purely a woman's decision to have a baby? Is she right in trying to contact Jake? Why does she do it? Should she have made sure she talked to him before making her decision to continue with the pregnancy?
18. *Caribou Crossing.* The community has an effect on people. Why did Brooke stay once she cleaned up her act? How does she fit into the community now? Do you see Caribou Crossing having an impact on Jake over the course of the book?
19. *Marriage proposal.* Why does Jake propose the first time and why does Brooke turn him down? What's changed for each of them by the second time he proposes?
20. *Strength.* What are Brooke's strengths and weaknesses at the beginning of the book? How about Jake's? What new strengths do they develop, and how does that come about? Do you think they'll have a happy marriage and build a happy family?
21. *Jamal and Karen.* What do you think of Jamal Estevez and Karen MacLean? Do you think their romance has a future? (If you want to find out the answer, read the next Caribou Crossing Romance!)
22. *Dave Cousins.* What kind of man is Dave? What kind of woman would make him risk his heart again? (Yes, Dave's story is coming up too.)

I'd love to hear your thoughts on some of these questions and issues! Email me at susan@susanlyons.ca. And don't forget to drop by my website: www.susanlyons.ca. I'm also on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SusanLyonsFox.