

Discussion Guide

Home on the Range: A Caribou Crossing Romance
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Caribou Crossing Romance series Book 2 [Look for Book 1, *Caribou Crossing* (June 2013) and Book 3, *Gentle on my Mind* (September 2013)]

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

Thanks so much for reading *Home on the Range*. I hope you enjoyed the second 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 *Home on the Range*. I suggest you skim through the questions and pick the ones that interest you the most.

- 1. *Best friends*. Jess and Evan met in grade two. How did their relationship start, and how did it develop? How did they feel about each other as teens? Do you think it's inevitable that boy-girl friendships will change after puberty?
- 2. *The night at Zephyr Lake.* What are your thoughts on Jess's actions that night, and Evan's? What did they each hope for, and how did they each feel afterward? Was that night just one big mistake? How might their lives have turned out if that night had never happened?
- 3. *The breakup*. What do you think of Evan's actions after that night? How about Jess's? Should either of them have tried harder to maintain a relationship?
- 4. *Jess's secret*. Jess never told Evan about Robin. Do you think she should have? What do you think Evan would have done? How would things have turned out for them?
- 5. *Young marriage*. Why did Jess confess her secret to Dave? Why did they get married? Should they have married? Was their marriage good for Jess, for Dave, for Robin?
- 6. *Dave's true love*. When Dave found himself falling head over heels for another woman, do you think he handled the situation the best way that he could? How about Jess's actions, when she realized something was bothering him and made him confess? Was their divorce the right thing for Dave, for Jess, for Robin? Does it ring true to you that Dave and Jess are now good friends?
- 7. *Evan and Cynthia*. Describe their relationship. What brought them together, kept them together, and broke them up? Do you think Evan broke Cynthia's heart, or will she adjust quite easily and move on? Will they end up being friends?
- 8. *Finding "the one."* Jess's one true love has always been Evan, even though she did love Dave and tried to build a happy marriage. Dave's marriage broke up when he found his true love. Evan was

- talking about marriage with Cynthia, yet she was more of a rational choice than an emotional one. Do you believe that people have one true love? Should they wait for that special feeling before getting married? What if that means waiting forever? What if they do marry someone they care about, as Jess and Dave did, and later find their true love?
- 9. Evan and Caribou Crossing. Evan left town ten years ago and never wanted to return. Why? What did it symbolize to him? Why does Evan agree to Gianni's request, even after finding out that the Crazy Horse is near Caribou Crossing? How do his feelings change over the time he's in Caribou Crossing, and why? Do you think he'll be happy living there?
- 10. *Evan's secret*. Gianni sent Evan on an "undercover" mission to check out TJ Cousins. Once Evan realized TJ was really Jess, do you think he should have told her the truth immediately? How do you think he handles the situation, balancing his loyalty to his client and his loyalty to Jess? Can you relate to Jess's reaction when she finds out the truth?
- 11. Evan and his parents. What were Evan's parents like when he was a boy? What kind of relationship did he have with them? Why did he never communicate with his mother after he left Caribou Crossing, yet keep sending her money? Why does Jess encourage the grownup Evan to see his mom, and why does he finally do it? Did the reunion scene between Evan and Brooke seem believable to you? What do you think their relationship will be like in the future? (And if you want to find out if you're right, read Gentle on My Mind, which is Brooke's story.)
- 12. Evan and Jess's parents. What role did Jess's parents play in Evan's life?
- 13. *Madisun*. What role does Madisun play in the story? Do you think she'll achieve her dreams in the end?
- 14. *Jess's secret revealed*. Do you think Jess would ever have told Evan the truth about Robin if she hadn't had to? How did he feel, finding out the way that he did? How did Dave feel?
- 15. *Life before and after*. Jess and Evan were each quite happy with their lives before the book began. Over the course of the book, the reader learns that neither of their lives was perfect, though. What were the flaws in their old lives? How will their lives be different after the end of the book?
- 16. *Robin's father*. Everyone agrees that the world and Robin will continue to believe that Dave is Rob's biological father. Do you think that's the right decision?
- 17. *Childhood dreamers*. Jess and Evan both dreamed big as kids. How did he go about achieving his dreams and what lessons did he learn about dreams in this book? To what extent did Jess achieve her dreams, and what held her back from realizing all of them? What lessons did she learn in this book, and do you think she'll now do better at realizing her dreams?
- 18. *If you read Caribou Crossing*. Did Jess and Evan turn out the way you thought they would when you read about them as kids? Did Miriam and Wade's marriage evolve the way you imagined that it might?
- 19. *Happily ever after?* At the end of the story, what have Jess and Evan learned? Do you think they'll have a happy marriage and build a happy family? How will Dave fit into the picture?

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.