



Discussion Guide

Sex Drive
by Susan Lyons

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Wild Ride to Love series, Book 1

[watch for Book 2, *Love, Unexpectedly* (Kat Fallon's story), coming from Kensington Brava in April 2010 under the pen name **Susan Fox**)]

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

Thanks so much for reading *Sex Drive*. I hope you enjoyed it and I'd love to hear from you. I'm happy to provide bookmarks and autographed bookplates; 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 (including Damien's Aussie barbecue), a monthly contest, and other fun stuff.

Now, let's talk about *Sex Drive*. I suggest you skim through the questions and pick the ones that interest you the most.

1. *The Title.* My working title for the book was *Fly Me*, which I thought was fun and sexy and appropriate for the “planes” book of my “planes, trains, automobiles, and a cruise ship” Wild Ride to Love series. My editor instead chose *Sex Drive*. Which title do you think is most appropriate, and why? What does Theresa learn about her sex drive?
2. *Who is Theresa?* What’s her goal and self-image at the beginning of the story? How do these change over the course of the story, and where does she end up? Do you think the nickname Damien gives her – Tezzie – suits her?
3. *Family issues.* Both Theresa and Damien have uncomfortable relationships with their families. Where do the problems spring from in each case? At the beginning of the book, how are each of them dealing with their family issues? How does this change by the end of the book?
4. *Birth order.* Theresa is the oldest of four sisters. How has that fact, and family history, shaped her personality? What’s been the influence of birth order on her younger sisters? And how about you? What’s your order in your family, and do you think that’s affected you?
5. *The genius kid.* In what ways is Theresa’s high IQ a blessing, and in what ways is it a curse? Is it better to be very smart, or to be average?
6. *The ex.* Why did Theresa get involved with Jeffrey in the first place? Was she impossibly naïve? What went wrong in their relationship? When it went wrong, did she overreact? At the beginning of the story, Theresa believes that guys have seen only her brain and not been interested in her as a person. Do you think that’s true?
7. *Theresa’s looks.* Do you think she’s plain or beautiful? What makes a person beautiful? What makes them *feel* beautiful?
8. *Sexiest bachelor.* Damien has been marketed by his “people” as one of Australia’s 10 sexiest bachelors. How is that working out for him? What are the pros and cons to that image?

9. *Away from home.* Theresa's parents are in Vancouver, but she's chosen to live in Australia. Why?
10. *Sisters.* How would you characterize the relationship between Theresa and her sisters? Why aren't they closer to each other? Do you have sisters yourself? If so, what's your relationship like?
11. *Merilee's wedding.* How does Theresa feel about her sister's wedding? And how does she feel about organizing it, together with her sisters? There's a lot of history behind those emotions. Where are her feelings coming from, and can you relate to them?
12. *Strengths and weaknesses.* What are Theresa's good qualities, and what are her weaknesses? How about Damien? Do you see one or both of them growing and changing over the course of the story?
13. *His tats.* Damien has two tattoos. What do they say about him, both when he got them and now that he's an adult? Do you believe in things like Chinese Zodiac signs, totem animals, and so on?
14. *Social conscience.* Theresa puts Damien down for not having enough of a social conscience, then he accuses her of the same thing. How does the theme of social conscience factor into the story and into the development of their relationship?
15. *The writing life.* Damien's a writer. Did you enjoy the snippets of information he provided about the writing life and about romance novels? Did any of them come as a surprise to you?
16. *The Kalti Brown books.* What do you think of the concept for Damien's Kalti Brown books? How did his ideas about his protagonist and work in progress change over the course of the book? If his Kalti Brown books really existed, would you buy them?
17. *Airplanes.* It's a different world on an airplane, particularly on a very long flight. How does this affect Theresa and Damien? What's been your experience on airplanes? Do you keep to yourself or chat to the person beside you, or even flirt? Is your behavior different on a plane than anywhere else? Why?
18. *The big misunderstanding.* When Theresa overhears Damien's phone call, she leaps to the conclusion that he's using her just the way Jeffrey did. Why does she do that?
19. *Opposites attract.* In what ways are Theresa and Damien opposites, and in what ways are they similar? Do you think that, long term, they'll be happy together?
20. *A wild ride to love.* Theresa and Damien fall for each other in a very short time. Does that work for you? Could you see the development of their relationship, from attraction to liking and sharing, to respect and trust, through to falling in love?

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.

And please be on the lookout for Kat Fallon's story, the "trains" segment of the Wild Ride to Love series. It's called ***Love, Unexpectedly*** and will be released in April 2010 under the Kensington Brava imprint and the pen name **Susan Fox**.

Nav Bharani is in love with his neighbour, Kat Fallon, but she's stuck him in the buddy trap. Her train trip from Montreal is his opportunity to play "stranger on the train" and seduce her into seeing him in a whole new light – and realizing he's the man of her dreams.