



Discussion Guide

Love, Unexpectedly

by Susan Lyons writing as Susan Fox

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Wild Ride to Love series, Book 2

[don't miss Book 1, *Sex Drive* (Theresa Fallon's story) – a *Cosmo* Red Hot Read; Kensington Aphrodisia; Dec 2009; written under the name Susan Lyons]

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

Thanks so much for reading *Love, Unexpectedly*. 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, a monthly contest, and other fun stuff.

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

1. *The title*. Do you think the title fits the book? Was finding love "unexpected" for Kat? For Nav?
2. *Friends to lovers*. What do you think of the "friends to lovers" type of romance? Can comfort and knowledge of each other thrive side by side with passion and romance? Do you know people who've fallen in love this way? What about in the movies or other novels?
3. *Nav's plan of action*. If you were in Nav's position – stuck in the buddy trap by someone you were in love with – what would you do? What do you think of his plan?
4. *Risk*. Sometimes you have to take big risks to go after what you want. Nav did. In his shoes, would you have taken the same kind of risk? Have you ever risked a lot because you wanted something a great deal?
5. *The romance of train travel*. Kat talks about the different world of being on a train, and Nav remembers movies like "North by Northwest" and "Silver Streak," where strangers turned into lovers. What's so different about train travel? How does that affect Nav, in formulating his plan? How does it play into the development of their romance? Have you ever taken a trip by train? What was it like for you? Did you behave differently than you normally do?
6. *The game*. What's the train game he proposes to Kat? How do the rules develop?
7. *Her buy-in*. When she realizes Pritam is really Nav, and he tells her about the game, what's her reaction? Why do you think she finally buys into it? What does she find to be the advantages and the disadvantages?
8. *Who is Kat?* 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? How does Nav influence that?
9. *Family issues*. Both Kat and Nav have somewhat 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?
10. *Merilee's wedding*. How does Kat feel about her sister's wedding? Where do her feelings come from? Do they change over the course of the story?

11. *Birth order*. Kat is the second of four sisters. How has that fact, and family history, shaped her personality? What's been the influence of birth order on her sisters? And how about you? What's your order in your family, and do you think that's affected you?
12. *Ms. Sociability*. That's the label Kat's family attached to her. How did she get that way? Is it an appropriate label for her?
13. *Sisters*. How do you see Kat's relationship with her sisters changing over the course of the story? What does she learn about herself and about them through their conversations?
14. *Finding your mate*. What's the best method of finding your future spouse? Nav's parents believe it's through arranged marriage. Kat has tended to fall hard and fast, but her relationships have been superficial. If you've found your special mate, how did the two of you meet, and do you think that's a good method? If you haven't found that special person and want to, what methods are you trying?
15. *The perfect man*. The men Kat has fallen for have been "larger than life" – e.g., a TV star, an Olympic gold medal skier, a NASCAR champion, an international financier. Nav is a different kind of man – and he changes during the course of the story. What kind of guy is he when the story starts? In what ways does he change, and in what ways does he stay the same? What are the qualities you think are most important in a lifetime mate?
16. *The perfect woman*. Because of her family history and her bad luck with relationships, Kat has come to believe she's in some ways "second class." Nav thinks she's perfect. What do you see as Kat's strengths and weaknesses? How do you see her change over the course of the book?
17. *All's fair in love and war*. Nav deceives Kat, saying that what happens on the train will stay on the train, when in fact he knows their relationship has to change. What do you think about this deception?
18. *Other strangers on the train*. Kat and Nav meet other people on the train. How does each of them play a role in the developing romance?
19. *Love*. How do Kat and Nav each define love? How do you define it?
20. *A wild ride to love*. Kat's feelings change from friendship to love quite quickly. Do you buy that? Do you think she and Nav will have a "happy ever after" life together?

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.susanfox.ca.

As for the rest of the Wild Ride to Love series, you can find Theresa Fallon's story ("planes") in *Sex Drive*, written under the pen name **Susan Lyons**. *Cosmo* chose it as a Red Hot Read!

Prof. Theresa Fallon's ex-husband gave her good reason to swear off men. But when, on the flight from Sydney to Vancouver, she's seated beside one of Australia's ten sexiest bachelors, she has reason to question that decision. It's a long flight, but thriller writer Damien Black has ways of making the hours fly by! From there, it's not all that big a step to enjoying a stopover together in romantic Honolulu. For the cynical Theresa and the far-too-experienced Damien, this journey is a special one. To their mutual surprise, they're on a wild ride to love!

Jenna's story ("automobiles") and Merilee's ("a cruise ship") will follow. Happy reading!