



Discussion Questions
“Too Hot to Handle” in *MEN ON FIRE*
by Susan Lyons

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

Thanks so much for reading “Too Hot to Handle.” 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 the Raining Men cocktail and Jade’s Nanaimo bars), a monthly contest, and other fun stuff.

Now, let’s talk about “Too Hot to Handle.”

1. *Jade’s promotion opportunity.* She’s told that her chances of getting the CEO job at the Families First Foundation could be affected by the fact that she’s single. Do you think that’s a legitimate criterion for promotion at an organization such as FFF? What would you do if your boss told you something like this?
2. *The faux fiancé plan.* Is it unethical or is it justifiable to pretend to be engaged in order to improve her chance of getting the promotion? Does it make a difference that she wants to be married and is seriously pursuing that goal?
3. *Arranged marriage.* Jade’s girlfriend Amarjeet is thinking of opting into an arranged marriage. What do you think of that idea? Jade’s Chinese granny would be happy to do the same for Jade. Should she consider that possibility?
4. *Jade’s marriage plan.* Jade has her own “one date” plan, which she thinks will be an efficient way of finding the right man. What’s your opinion of her plan?
5. *Prince Charming potential.* How long do you think it takes to know if a person is a possible match?
6. *Frog detector rules.* Does it make sense to have rules about the kind of people you’ll date? Do you have any of those rules? If so, what are they, and why do you feel strongly about them? What do you think of Jade’s frog detector rules?
7. *Bachelor auctions.* Ever been to one? Would you like to go? What do you think of the idea?
8. *Her girlfriends’ scheme.* At the auction, do you think Kimberly and Amarjeet were plotting against Jade, so that she’d get firefighter Quinn rather than any of the guys on her own list? Why would they do that?
9. *Men are from Mars.* Men and women tend to think differently. When Quinn first tries to seduce Jade into bed, what’s he thinking and what’s she thinking?

10. *An unsuitable man.* Jade starts out thinking she wants a white-collar guy, and that Quinn is completely unsuitable. What does she find out as she has coffee and lunch dates with other men, and at the same time gets to know Quinn?
11. *Leaping into bed.* Was Jade wrong to have sex with Quinn the first time they met? Was it immoral? Was it stupid, considering he didn't fit either of the "boxes" on her "to do" list? Why did she do it?
12. *No risk-takers.* Jade has a rule against dating a man who takes risks, either in his personal life or on his job. Why does she feel so strongly about this? What do you think of her rule?
13. *Her parents.* When her dad was seriously injured on the job, her mom was so distraught that he changed to a teaching job. What do you think of her mom's behavior and her dad's?
14. *Too hot to handle.* Initially, Jade thinks of Quinn as a risk-taker because he rides a motorbike, sails, and works as a firefighter. Do you agree? What's Jade's opinion as she gets to know Quinn better?
15. *How about you?* Would you date a man like Quinn? Are there things about him and/or his work that would trouble you? How would you deal with them?
16. *Brothers.* What are Quinn's feelings about his own brother? How have they affected his life? Why is he now interested in being a big brother?
17. *Strengths and weaknesses.* What are Jade's good qualities, and what are her weaknesses? How about Quinn? Do you see one or both of them growing and changing over the course of the story?
18. *Quinn and fire.* How does Quinn feel about fire and firefighting? Can you sympathize? What are the flaws in his reasoning?
19. *His accident.* What do you think about how it happened? Was he at fault in any way? Do you understand the different reactions of his fellow firefighters?
20. *Against all reason.* Jade is sure Quinn isn't the right man for her, yet she keeps visiting him in the hospital. Why? Would you do the same thing?
21. *Her confession.* She confesses her deceit to the Chairman of the FFF Board. Why?
22. *The chat with her dad.* Jade's father tells her things she'd never known before. Why did he choose to do this now? Should he have told her?
23. *Her name.* What does her dad say about her name? Do you think his description fits her?
24. *Compromise.* Should people make compromises in the name of love? If so, how far should they go? Have you made this kind of compromise? If so, how did it work out?
25. *The resolution.* Both Jade and Quinn decide to make sacrifices. What are their sacrifices, and do you think they are good ones? Will they be able to live with their decisions?
26. *HEA?* Do you think Jade and Quinn have a good chance of living happily ever after?

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.