



The Arrangement by Miranda Rijks – Discussion Questions

******There are spoilers in the following questions******

1. What were your first impressions of Grace as a narrator? Did you trust her from the outset, or did you find yourself questioning her reliability early on?
2. The novel opens with the shocking news of Abi's murder in a foreign country. How did the setting of South Africa, physically distant and legally inaccessible to Grace, shape your experience of the story?
3. Were you surprised by the direction the story took, or did you anticipate the kind of secrets Abi was hiding?
4. Grace is a divorcee and a recovering alcoholic who relapses after Abi's death. How did her addiction affect your ability to empathise with her? Were there moments when you lost patience with her, and if so, did you feel the author intended that?
5. Several characters dismiss Grace's fears as paranoia caused by drinking. How did this dynamic of not being believed affect you as a reader? Did you find it frustrating, realistic, or both?
6. Grace takes increasingly risky and independent action, including secretly setting up meetings with Abi's sugar daddies. Do you see her as brave, reckless, or somewhere in between?
7. Did you feel sympathy for the choices Abi made?
8. Do you think the novel "sugar-coated" the sugar daddy industry by presenting relationships that appeared non-sexual? Did you find the portrayal of Sweetner.net realistic? What conversations did it prompt about the realities of such arrangements?

9. In what ways does grief drive Grace's behaviour throughout the book? Is her investigation an act of love, of denial, or of self-punishment?
10. Grace is systematically gaslit — she receives threatening "Dalek-like" phone calls, a Snapchat from "Abi's ghost," and warnings to stop digging. How did the gaslighting affect your reading experience? At what point (if at all) did you start to doubt Grace yourself?
11. The novel explores how a woman's credibility is undermined when she is known to have a drinking problem. What does this say about how society treats women who struggle with addiction, particularly in crisis situations?
12. The title question, *How well do you know your daughter?* is one many parents will find uncomfortable. Did reading this book change how you think about the relationship between parents and their adult children?