

The Godchild by Miranda Rijks – Discussion Questions

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

1. Do you have a godchild or a godparent? What do you think a godparent owes their godchild?

2. Carina hadn't seen Alicia in over a decade. Would you have let her move in?

3. What was your first impression of Alicia? Did she seem too good to be true?

4. Carina sees Alicia as the daughter she always wanted. How do you think this made Tegan feel? Did Carina treat her own daughter fairly?

5. Don, Tegan and Arthur weren't so sure about Alicia. Why do you think Carina ignored their doubts?

6. Don stays at home to look after baby Ethan while Carina works as a head teacher, and he isn't happy about it. How did this affect their marriage and the family?

7. Tegan is bullied at the school where her mother is head teacher. How do you think that affected her? Should Carina have done more to help?

8. When Tegan was accused of a horrible crime, did you believe her? Who did you suspect?

9. The book moves between the past and the present. How did the story of Carina and Gina's friendship change the way you saw the present-day events?

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10. How did your feelings about Carina change as you learned more about her past?

11. Alicia's childhood with her unpredictable mother was very different from Tegan and Arthur's. How much do you think our upbringing shapes who we become? Should Alicia be held responsible for her actions?

12. Can children ever be made to pay for their parents' mistakes?

13. Is revenge ever justified? Did any of the characters have a right to want it?

14. Were you surprised by the twists? Which revelation shocked you the most?

15. Did you find yourself judging any of the characters for the choices they made? Who and why?

16. What did you think of the ending and the epilogue? What do you think the future holds for Carina's family?

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