

The New Neighbour by Miranda Rijks – Discussion Questions

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

1. What did you think of The Close at the start? Would you like to live in a small community like that?

2. How did Wilson's death in the hit-and-run change the relationships between the neighbours?

3. What was your first impression of Linette? When did you start to suspect she wasn't all she seemed?

4. Isobel trained as an architect but now works from home as a part-time beauty therapist. How do you think this affected the way she felt about herself and her marriage?

5. Isobel is lonely and her marriage to Mike is under strain. Did that make her more vulnerable to Linette?

6. Why do you think Josie had gone cold on Isobel? Did you suspect her?

7. Linette stirs up old disagreements between the neighbours. Why do you think small disputes between neighbours can escalate so quickly?

© Miranda Rijks 2026

8. Who did you think was responsible for the hit-and-run? Did your suspicions change as the story went on?

9. When there was another death, who did you suspect?

10. Some readers found Isobel a little interfering. Was she right to keep digging?

11. If you discovered a neighbour had done something terrible, would you go to the police, even if it meant destroying your relationships with everyone in the street?

12. Is it ever right to keep a secret to protect your family or your community?

13. How well do you really know your neighbours? Has this book made you look at yours differently?

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. Did the ending satisfy you? What do you think the future holds for Isobel and her family?

© Miranda Rijks 2026