

# ***Where Daffodils Bloom***

## **- Book Club Discussion Guide -**

1. What do you think of the book's title? Why are daffodils so important in the story? Give some examples of how they are used symbolically throughout the story arc.
2. At the beginning of the story, Lily has to make a choice between two different men. Why was the choice so difficult for her? What does Paul offer her? What does Fred offer her? What do you think her life might have looked like if she had chosen differently?
3. Lily's mother, Alice, is an important mentor to her, but Lily still doesn't understand or agree with all the choices her mother makes. How did you feel about Alice's decision to stay with her husband despite his very serious flaws? What would you have done in the same situation? If she had chosen to leave or divorce him, do you think she could have made a good life for herself as single mother in the time and place she lived in, or was she trapped by her circumstances?
4. How did Lily's experiences with her father shape and influence the way she viewed other men? What deep, ingrained fears did she struggle with, and how did they influence her decisions?
5. How was Fred's perspective on life different from Lily's? What past experiences and personality traits shaped their different perspectives?
6. How did you feel about Alice encouraging Lily to forgive her father before he had repented or asked for forgiveness? Do you think this was wise advice? Was it biblical? Why or why not?
7. Fred had no trouble trusting God, but sometimes his decisions seemed reckless or even dangerous to Lily. How would you react to a spouse who made similar choices? Would you appreciate their faith, or would it sometimes make you frustrated or anxious like it did Lily?
8. Did you identify most with Fred or Lily? Which of the secondary characters was your favorite? What character did you dislike the most? Why?
9. What was your reaction to Lily's violent confrontation with her father? Do you think she did the right thing? Why do you think it took her so long to stand up to him? What changed in her character and circumstances that made her decide she couldn't take it anymore?
10. Did you feel the story did a good job capturing a true picture of what life was like in 1940's and 1950's England and America? Did the culture and settings feel realistic? Did you learn any interesting things about the time period that you didn't know before?

11. What do you think the central themes of the story were? What were the most important lessons that Lily learned? How did they change her and help her grow as a person?
12. How did you feel about Lily's final conversation with her father? What would you have done in the same situation? Why do you think it was important for her to forgive him? How could holding onto bitterness have negatively affected her future?
13. How did you feel about the ending? Did it satisfy you or leave you wanting more? Why were Fred's final words to Lily so meaningful? What deeper message was he communicating?
14. What do you think are some unique challenges for an author writing biographical fiction? What makes it different from biographies or regular historical fiction? Do you think Delray did a good job telling a fictionalized version of a true story? Would you read another book from her in the future?