

the marriage portrait discussion questions

The Marriage Portrait Discussion Questions: Exploring Themes, Characters, and Historical Context

the marriage portrait discussion questions often open the door to a deeper understanding of the novel's intricate narrative and rich historical backdrop. Whether you've just finished reading Maggie O'Farrell's captivating book or are preparing for a book club meeting, these questions can help spark meaningful conversations and uncover layers of meaning that might otherwise be overlooked. The marriage portrait, as a central motif, invites readers to explore themes of identity, power, and the art of survival in a turbulent era.

In this article, we'll delve into some thoughtful and engaging discussion questions surrounding "The Marriage Portrait," highlighting key elements such as character development, historical setting, symbolism, and the emotional undercurrents that drive the story forward.

Understanding the Historical Context

One of the most compelling aspects of "The Marriage Portrait" is how it immerses readers in Renaissance Italy, a world filled with political intrigue, cultural richness, and complex social dynamics. Discussing the historical context can illuminate why characters behave in certain ways and how their environment shapes their destinies.

How does the setting influence the characters' decisions?

The political instability and social expectations of Renaissance courts are crucial in understanding the pressures faced by the protagonist and other characters. When discussing this question, consider how the environment creates constraints or opportunities, and how these factors impact personal freedom and survival.

What role does art play in the novel?

Given that the book's title references a portrait, art emerges not only as a thematic element but also as a symbol of legacy and identity. The discussion can explore how portraits serve as a form of communication, political

statement, or even a means of control in the context of marriage and power.

Character Exploration Through Marriage Portrait Discussion Questions

Engaging with the characters on a deeper level can lead to a more nuanced appreciation of the story. The marriage portrait discussion questions often prompt readers to reflect on motivations, relationships, and transformations.

How does the protagonist's view of marriage evolve throughout the story?

This question invites readers to track the emotional and psychological journey of the main character. From initial hopes and fears to eventual realizations, the evolution of their understanding of marriage reveals much about the social constraints and personal resilience at play.

What are the different ways power manifests in the relationships depicted?

Power dynamics are central to the novel's tension. Discussing this question encourages analysis of how control, manipulation, and influence operate within marriages and political alliances, revealing the complexity behind seemingly intimate bonds.

Symbolism and Themes in The Marriage Portrait

To fully appreciate the depth of the novel, it's helpful to examine the symbols and recurring themes woven throughout the narrative. These elements enrich the story and provoke thoughtful discussion.

What does the marriage portrait itself symbolize?

Beyond being a literal painting, the portrait can be seen as a representation of identity, expectations, and societal roles imposed on women. This question encourages readers to think critically about the connection between appearance and reality.

How does the theme of identity shape the narrative?

The struggle for self-definition in a world dominated by external pressures is a key theme. Exploring this question can lead to discussions about gender roles, personal agency, and the masks people wear to navigate complex social landscapes.

Discussion Questions to Spark Meaningful Conversations

For book groups or individual readers looking to engage more deeply, here are some thoughtful prompts that bring the marriage portrait and its broader implications to the forefront:

- In what ways do societal expectations limit or empower the characters?
- How does the author use language and imagery to evoke the atmosphere of Renaissance Italy?
- What insights does the novel offer about the nature of marriage during the era?
- How do secrets and hidden motives drive the plot and character development?
- Can the marriage portrait be seen as a critique of historical narratives about women? Why or why not?

These questions encourage participants to engage with the novel beyond its surface narrative and consider its implications on gender, art, and history.

Tips for Leading a Discussion on The Marriage Portrait

Facilitating a vibrant and insightful discussion requires a balance between guiding questions and allowing space for personal interpretation. Here are some tips to consider:

Create a Safe Space for Diverse Opinions

Encourage participants to share their perspectives openly. The themes in "The Marriage Portrait" can resonate differently depending on individual experiences, so fostering respect and curiosity helps enrich the conversation.

Use Open-Ended Questions

Avoid yes/no questions. Instead, ask "how," "why," or "what do you think," which prompt deeper thinking and elaboration. For example, instead of "Did you like the protagonist?" try "How did your perception of the protagonist change as the story progressed?"

Incorporate Historical Background

Providing a brief overview of Renaissance Italy or the role of women in that era can help participants contextualize the story, making the discussion more meaningful and informed.

Encourage Connections to Contemporary Issues

Though the novel is set centuries ago, many themes—such as the struggle for autonomy, representation, and identity—remain relevant. Drawing parallels to today can spark passionate and relatable discussions.

Why The Marriage Portrait Discussion Questions Matter

Discussing this novel through targeted questions not only enhances comprehension but also allows readers to explore broader topics about art, history, and human relationships. The marriage portrait becomes more than just a story; it becomes a lens through which complex societal structures and personal narratives are examined.

By engaging with these questions, readers can appreciate the novel's craftsmanship and its emotional depth, while also reflecting on the timeless challenges faced by individuals navigating power, love, and identity.

As you dive into the marriage portrait discussion questions, you'll find new layers of meaning unfolding, making your reading experience richer and more rewarding. Whether in a book club or personal reflection, these questions

offer a gateway to deeper understanding and lively conversation.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the central themes explored in 'The Marriage Portrait'?

The central themes in 'The Marriage Portrait' include power and control within marriage, identity and self-discovery, the constraints of societal expectations, and the complexities of love and trust.

How does 'The Marriage Portrait' portray the role of women in Renaissance society?

'The Marriage Portrait' portrays women as often confined by societal and familial expectations, highlighting their limited agency and the pressures they face to conform to roles as wives and objects of political alliance.

What is the significance of the portrait in the story?

The portrait symbolizes the protagonist's identity and the facade she is expected to maintain. It reflects the tension between appearance and reality, as well as the struggle for self-expression within oppressive circumstances.

How does the author use setting to enhance the narrative in 'The Marriage Portrait'?

The author uses the Renaissance setting to underscore themes of power, art, and politics, creating a rich historical backdrop that influences the characters' actions and the constraints they experience.

What discussion questions can help explore character development in 'The Marriage Portrait'?

Questions such as 'How does the protagonist evolve throughout the story?', 'What internal conflicts does she face?', and 'How do her relationships with other characters affect her choices?' can help delve into character development.

Additional Resources

The Marriage Portrait Discussion Questions: An In-Depth Exploration

the marriage portrait discussion questions serve as a vital tool for readers, educators, and book clubs aiming to delve deeper into the nuanced themes and character dynamics of Maggie O'Farrell's historical novel **The Marriage Portrait**. This literary work, set in Renaissance Italy, offers a complex narrative ripe for analysis, and thoughtful discussion questions help unpack its layers of intrigue, power, and identity. Engaging with these questions not only enhances comprehension but also encourages critical thinking about the socio-political and emotional undercurrents present in the story.

Understanding the Role of Discussion Questions in Literary Analysis

In literary circles, discussion questions act as catalysts for conversation and deeper insight. For **The Marriage Portrait**, these questions often focus on themes such as manipulation, autonomy, and the intersection of personal and political motives. They invite readers to examine the protagonist's struggles within a patriarchal society and to reflect on the historical context that influences character decisions.

Incorporating the marriage portrait discussion questions into educational settings allows students and readers to analyze O'Farrell's use of language, symbolism, and narrative structure. Such questions are designed to foster engagement with the text beyond surface-level reading, encouraging participants to interpret characters' motivations, the significance of setting, and the broader implications of the plot.

Key Themes Explored Through the Marriage Portrait Discussion Questions

The marriage portrait discussion questions often revolve around critical themes that define the novel:

- **Power and Control:** How does the novel portray the dynamics of power within marriage and political alliances? What does the protagonist's experience reveal about autonomy in restrictive environments?
- **Identity and Appearance:** In what ways does the painting—the marriage portrait—serve as a symbol? How do appearances contrast with reality in the story?
- **Historical Context:** What insights do the questions prompt about Renaissance Italy's societal norms, gender roles, and political intrigue?
- **Psychological Depth:** How are the characters' internal conflicts and

emotional complexities explored through the narrative and reflected in the discussion questions?

These themes are essential in guiding readers through a comprehensive understanding of the novel's multifaceted layers.

How to Effectively Use The Marriage Portrait Discussion Questions

Discussion questions related to *The Marriage Portrait* can be used across various platforms—book clubs, academic courses, and online forums. To maximize their effectiveness, it is important to approach these questions with an open mind and a willingness to explore multiple perspectives.

Strategies for Facilitated Discussions

- **Contextual Preparation:** Before addressing the questions, readers should familiarize themselves with Renaissance history and the author's background to enrich their interpretations.
- **Encourage Diverse Opinions:** The discussion questions often elicit varied responses; creating a safe space for differing viewpoints enhances the depth of conversation.
- **Focus on Textual Evidence:** Participants should support their answers with specific references from the novel, fostering analytical rigor and attention to detail.
- **Relate to Contemporary Issues:** Drawing parallels between the novel's themes and modern societal challenges can make the discussion more relevant and engaging.

Examples of Provocative Discussion Questions

To illustrate the scope and depth of the marriage portrait discussion questions, consider the following examples frequently used in literary analysis and book group settings:

1. How does Lucrezia's character evolve throughout the novel, and what

factors influence her transformation?

2. What role does art, specifically the titular portrait, play in shaping political narratives and personal identities?
3. In what ways does the novel critique the institution of marriage during the Renaissance period?
4. How does Maggie O'Farrell use language and imagery to convey tension and uncertainty?
5. Can the novel be interpreted as a commentary on the limitations placed on women, both historically and in contemporary society?

These questions prompt analytical thinking and encourage readers to engage with the text on multiple levels.

Comparative Insights: The Marriage Portrait Discussion Questions Versus Other Historical Novels

When compared to discussion questions from other historical novels, those centered on **The Marriage Portrait** tend to emphasize psychological complexity and the interplay between personal agency and external forces. While many historical fiction discussion prompts focus on factual accuracy or plot, O'Farrell's work invites a more introspective debate about character motivations and societal critique.

For instance, in comparison to questions about Hilary Mantel's **Wolf Hall**, which often delve into political machinations and historical reinterpretation, **The Marriage Portrait** questions lean more heavily toward emotional resonance and the subtle power dynamics within intimate relationships. This distinction makes the marriage portrait discussion questions especially valuable for readers interested in the human aspect of history rather than mere events.

Pros and Cons of Using Discussion Questions for This Novel

- **Pros:** Enhance critical thinking, promote deeper engagement, facilitate diverse interpretations, and provide structure for group discussions.

- **Cons:** Potentially limit spontaneous interpretation if questions are too prescriptive; some readers may find certain questions too challenging without historical background knowledge.

Balancing these factors is key to fostering productive and enriching literary conversations.

Integrating Technology and Digital Platforms for Discussion

In the digital age, marriage portrait discussion questions have found new life on social media, online book clubs, and virtual classrooms. Platforms like Goodreads, Reddit, and specialized literary forums offer spaces where readers can share their perspectives asynchronously, broadening the reach and diversity of responses.

Educators have also begun integrating these questions into digital lesson plans, using tools such as Google Classroom and Zoom breakout rooms to facilitate real-time discussions. This approach not only accommodates varying learning styles but also connects readers from different backgrounds, enriching the analysis with global viewpoints.

SEO Considerations in Crafting and Sharing Discussion Questions

From an SEO standpoint, the phrase “the marriage portrait discussion questions” serves as a highly targeted keyword cluster for content creators focusing on literary analysis or educational resources related to Maggie O’Farrell’s novel. Incorporating related LSI keywords such as “*The Marriage Portrait* themes,” “historical novel discussion prompts,” “Renaissance Italy literature,” and “book club questions for The Marriage Portrait” naturally within content improves search engine visibility and attracts a niche audience.

Furthermore, writing in a professional and investigative tone, as demonstrated here, aligns with the expectations of academic and literary review readers, increasing the likelihood of engagement and shares within relevant communities.

Exploring the marriage portrait discussion questions opens pathways to richer understanding and appreciation of Maggie O’Farrell’s work, encouraging readers to unravel the intricate tapestry of history, identity, and power woven throughout the novel.

The Marriage Portrait Discussion Questions

the marriage portrait discussion questions: *The Marriage Portrait: Reese's Book Club* Maggie O'Farrell, 2022-09-06 WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR FICTION FINALIST • REESE'S BOOK CLUB PICK • NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER • The author of award-winning *Hamnet* brings the world of Renaissance Italy to jewel-bright life in this unforgettable fictional portrait of the captivating young duchess Lucrezia de' Medici as she makes her way in a troubled court. "I could not stop reading this incredible true story." —Reese Witherspoon (Reese's Book Club Pick) O'Farrell pulls out little threads of historical detail to weave this story of a precocious girl sensitive to the contradictions of her station...You may know the history, and you may think you know what's coming, but don't be so sure. —The Washington Post Florence, the 1550s. Lucrezia, third daughter of the grand duke, is comfortable with her obscure place in the palazzo: free to wonder at its treasures, observe its clandestine workings, and devote herself to her own artistic pursuits. But when her older sister dies on the eve of her wedding to the ruler of Ferrara, Modena and Reggio, Lucrezia is thrust unwittingly into the limelight: the duke is quick to request her hand in marriage, and her father just as quick to accept on her behalf. Having barely left girlhood behind, Lucrezia must now enter an unfamiliar court whose customs are opaque and where her arrival is not universally welcomed. Perhaps most mystifying of all is her new husband himself, Alfonso. Is he the playful sophisticate he appeared to be before their wedding, the aesthete happiest in the company of artists and musicians, or the ruthless politician before whom even his formidable sisters seem to tremble? As Lucrezia sits in constricting finery for a painting intended to preserve her image for centuries to come, one thing becomes worryingly clear. In the court's eyes, she has one duty: to provide the heir who will shore up the future of the Ferranese dynasty. Until then, for all of her rank and nobility, the new duchess's future hangs entirely in the balance. Full of the beauty and emotion with which she illuminated the Shakespearean canvas of *Hamnet*, Maggie O'Farrell turns her talents to Renaissance Italy in an extraordinary portrait of a resilient young woman's battle for her very survival.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: *Marriage* Bill Hybels, Kevin & Sherry Harney, 2009-12-15 For a partnership that's close and strong. Want to strengthen your marriage but unsure how to start? Marriage will help you and your spouse draw insight from one another and from the other couples in your group to build the kind of close relationship you've always wanted. Whether you need to stabilize shaky foundations or just want to make a good marriage even better, here's how to • Get the most from you and your partner's different personality traits using a brief, eye-opening self test • Weed out common "romance busters" that drain the excitement from your marriage • Resolve conflicts quickly using a simple three-step peace process • Prevent daily responsibilities from robbing you of real intimacy . . . and more. Marriage will help you and your mate not only recapture the thrill in your marriage, but also maintain and build upon it to create a satisfying, lasting relationship—the kind God designed you both to enjoy Interactions—a powerful and challenging tool for building deep relationships between you and your group members, and you and God. Interactions is far more than another group Bible study. It's a cutting-edge series designed to help small group participants develop into fully devoted followers of Christ.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: *I Am Sarah* James Davison, 2023-05-16 This is the entertaining and intriguing account of Sarah, a woman who has been alive for more than a millennium. She fell ill in her nineteenth year of life, died, and was resurrected by Jesus Christ. Pursued by the authorities who view her return to life as an abomination, she has been traveling through history with two others resurrected by Jesus, Lazarus of Bethany, and Elan, the son of the widow from Nain. After learning that their resurrections conveyed immortality, the three set out to discover why. While Lazarus is intent on preserving the beginnings of Christianity and Elan is happily exploring new geographies, Sarah searches for her life's purpose. Having fought alongside Lazarus and Elan in the Crusades, she now finds her place as a teacher, mentor, and gifted healer.

But her new life is soon tested in a way she wasn't prepared to face.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: Dale Loves Sophie to Death Robb Forman Dew, 2008-12-14 Robb Forman Dew's cult first novel explores themes of familial and romantic bonds as it tells the story of a woman whose husband stays behind in New England while she and their children spend the summer in her Midwestern hometown.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: *A Portrait of Loyalty (The Codebreakers Book #3)* Roseanna M. White, 2020-09-08 Zivon Marin was one of Russia's top cryptographers until the October Revolution tore apart his world. Forced to flee to England after speaking out against Lenin, Zivon is driven by a growing anger and determined to offer his services to the Brits. But never far from his mind is his brother, whom Zivon fears died in the train crash that separated them. Lily Blackwell sees the world best through the lens of a camera and possesses unsurpassed skill when it comes to retouching and re-creating photographs. With her father's connections in propaganda, she's recruited to the intelligence division, even though her mother would disapprove if she ever found out. After Captain Blackwell invites Zivon to dinner one evening, a friendship blooms between him and Lily that soon takes over their hearts. But both have secrets they're unwilling to share, and neither is entirely sure they can trust the other. When Zivon's loyalties are called into question, proving him honest is about more than one couple's future dreams--it becomes a matter of ending the war.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: *The Retributive and Suffering God of the Book of Jeremiah* Håkon Sunde Pedersen, 2023-06-09 Portraits of YHWH as a retributive and a suffering God appear side by side in the book of Jeremiah. Not surprisingly, scholars usually emphasize the contrast and conflict between them. In addition to obvious differences, they also tend to feature in different types of literary material in the book; that is, in prose and poetry. Hakon Sunde Pedersen's study challenges the common view by offering a new interpretation of some of the portraits in which not only radical differences but points of unity and connection between them come to light. Based on these observations, the author suggests that the portraits' juxtaposition in the book may ultimately contribute to highlighting central theological concerns in the book in its present (MT) form.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: *Resources in Education* , 1978-12

the marriage portrait discussion questions: *The Routledge Introduction to American Drama* Paul Thifault, 2022-06-29 This volume provides an accessible and engaging guide to the study of American dramatic literature. Designed to support students in reading, discussing, and writing about commonly assigned American plays, this text offers timely resources to think critically and originally about key moments on the American stage. Combining comprehensive coverage of the core plays from the post-Revolutionary era to the present, each chapter includes: historical and cultural context of each of the plays and their distinctive literary features clear introductions to the ongoing critical debates they have provoked collaborative prompts for classroom or online discussion annotated bibliographies for further research With its accessible prose style and clear structure, this introduction spotlights specific plays while encouraging students to contemplate timely questions of American identity across its selected span of US theatrical history.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: Ophelia's Muse Rita Cameron, 2015-10-01 I'll never want to draw anyone else but you. You are my muse. Without you there is no art in me. With her pale, luminous skin and cloud of copper-colored hair, nineteen-year-old Lizzie Siddal looks nothing like the rosy-cheeked ideal of Victorian beauty. Working in a London milliner's shop, Lizzie stitches elegant bonnets destined for wealthier young women, until a chance meeting brings her to the attention of painter and poet Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Enchanted both by her ethereal appearance and her artistic ambitions--quite out of place for a shop girl--Rossetti draws her into his glittering world of salons and bohemian soirees. Lizzie begins to sit for some of the most celebrated members of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, posing for John Everett Millais as Shakespeare's Ophelia, for William Holman Hunt--and especially for Rossetti, who immortalizes her in countless paintings as his namesake's beloved Beatrice. The passionate visions Rossetti creates on canvas are echoed in their intense affair. But while Lizzie strives to establish herself as a painter and poet in her own right,

betrayal, illness, and addiction leave her struggling to save her marriage and her sense of self. Rita Cameron weaves historical figures and vivid details into a complex, unconventional love story, giving voice to one of the most influential yet overlooked figures of a fascinating era--a woman who is both artist and inspiration, long gazed upon, but until now, never fully seen. An excerpt from Ophelia's Muse Rossetti stood behind the canvas, pretending to study Deverell's painting while he admired its model. Despite Deverell's enthusiastic descriptions, Rossetti was completely unprepared for the glorious woman before him. She seemed to be from another age, as if she had sprung to life from an antique painting of an Italian saint. Seated before the window, her hair cast a slight golden glow in the afternoon sun, like a halo. She could not have been more perfect if he had sculpted her from marble with his own hands. Deverell claimed that he had found the perfect Viola, but this girl was far too beautiful to pose as some love-sick page. She was clearly meant to sit for the great heroines of history and myth, and Rossetti vowed to paint her as a queen. Miss Siddal, has anyone ever told you that you were surely crafted by the gods in order to be painted? If you don't believe that yours is a beauty for the ages, you underestimate yourself. The force of his words struck Lizzie, and she wondered if he was serious, and if it could be true. Was this the thing that she had always been waiting for? Was she really meant to inspire great artists? Her head buzzed with the possibility, but the very allure of the idea felt dangerous...

the marriage portrait discussion questions: Zondervan King James Version Commentary Edward E. Hindson, 2010 Furnishing information no one-volume commentary can provide without the clutter or expense of a multi-volume set, this two-volume commentary expands on the critically acclaimed study notes of the Zondervan KJV Study Bible. Verse-by-verse expositions unlock the meaning of the King James Bible.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: Islamic Law on Trial Sohaira Z. M. Siddiqui, 2025-06-10 Prior to the East India Company's establishment in India in 1661, Islamic law was widely applied by the Mughal Empire. But as the Company's power grew, it established a court system intended to limit Islamic law. Following the Great Rebellion of 1857, the decentralized Islamic legal system was replaced with a new standardized system. Islamic Law on Trial interrogates the project of juridical colonization and demonstrates that alongside—and despite—the violent displacement of Muslim legal sovereignty, Muslims were able to engage with and even champion Islamic law from inside the colonial judiciary. The outcome of their work was a paradoxical legal terrain that appeared legitimate to both Muslim practitioners and English colonizers. Sohaira Siddiqui challenges long-standing assumptions about Islamic law under British rule, the ways in which colonial power displaced preexisting traditions, and how local Muslim elites navigated the new institutions imposed upon them.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: Queer Philosophy Raja Halwani, Carol Viola Anne Quinn, Andy Wible, 2012 The book is a collection of the presentations of the Society for Lesbian and Gay Philosophy from 1998 to 2008. The essays are organized historically, starting in 1998. Their topics cover virtually every philosophical field, and such that each is connected to gay and lesbian studies. Topics include how we are to understand sexual orientation, whether same-sex leads to polygamy, teaching gay studies to undergraduates, promiscuity and virtue, the war on terror and gay oppression, the rationality of coming out, the ethics of outing, connections between being gay and being happy, and last, but not least, dignity and being gay.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: King James Version Bible Commentary for Today Thomas Nelson, 2023-05-30 Every generation seeks to apply the Bible's timeless truth about God to its context. The King James Version Bible Commentary for Today is just that--the most up-to-date commentary on the time-honored text of the King James Version written by a trusted team of conservative scholars. This volume approaches the Bible with humility and respect as they explore its meaning for our generation. The King James Version Bible Commentary for Today provides readers and students of the Bible with clear explanations of the antiquated English vocabulary of the King James text as well as the Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek words that form the original languages of the Bible. It also focuses on the intended meaning of the original authors, providing linguistic,

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This Bible study from Willow Creek will help you and your mate not only recapture the thrill in your marriage, but also maintain and build upon it to create a satisfying, lasting relationship. Designed for use with small groups.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: The Leader's Wife Debby Thompson, 2018-05-11

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the marriage portrait discussion questions: Zion's Herald , 1904

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Sarat, William L. F. Felstiner, 1997 Each year more than 2 million Americans get divorced, and most of them use a lawyer. In closed-door conversations between lawyers and their clients strategy is planned, tactics are devised, and the emotional climate of the divorce is established. Do lawyers contribute to the pain and emotional difficulty of divorce by escalating demands and encouraging unreasonable behavior? Do they take advantage of clients at a time of emotional difficulty? Can and should clients trust their lawyers to look out for their welfare and advance their long-term interests? Austin Sarat and William L. F. Felstiner's new book, based on a pioneering and intensive study of actual conferences between divorce lawyers and their clients, provides an unprecedented behind-the-scenes description of the lawyer-client relationship, and calls into question much of the conventional wisdom about what divorce lawyers actually do. *Divorce Lawyers and Their Clients* suggests that most divorces are marked less by a pattern of aggressive advocacy than by one of inaction and drift. It uncovers reasons why lawyers find divorce practice frustrating and difficult and why clients frequently feel dissatisfied with their lawyers. This new work provides a unique perspective on the dynamics of professionalism. It charts the complex and shifting ways lawyers and clients negotiate their relationship as they work out the strategy and tactics of divorce. Sarat and Felstiner show how both lawyers and clients are able to draw on resources of power to set the agenda of their interaction, while neither one is fully in charge. Rather, power shifts between the two parties; where it is achieved, power is found in the ability to have one's understandings of the social and legal worlds of divorce accepted. Power then works through the creation of shared meanings. *Divorce Lawyers and Their Clients* examines the effort to create such shared meanings about the nature of marriage and why marriages fail, the operation of the legal process, and the best way to bring divorces to closure. It will be fascinating reading for anyone who is going through a divorce, or has gone through one, as well as for lawyers, judges, and scholars of law and society.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: The Englishwoman's Review of Social and Industrial Questions Janet Horowitz Murray, Myra Stark, 2016-12-19 *The Englishwoman's Review*, which published from 1866 to 1910, participated in and recorded a great change in the range of possibilities open to women. The ideal of the magazine was the idea of the emerging emancipated

middle-class woman: economic independence from men, choice of occupation, participation in the male enterprises of commerce and government, access to higher education, admittance to the male professions, particularly medicine, and, of course, the power of suffrage equal to that of men. First published in 1979, this twelfth volume contains issues from 1879. With an informative introduction by Janet Horowitz Murray and Myra Stark, and an index compiled by Anna Clark, this set is an invaluable resource to those studying nineteenth and early twentieth-century feminism and the women's movement in Britain.

the marriage portrait discussion questions: [Anna of Kleve, The Princess in the Portrait](#) Alison Weir, 2020-05-05 The surprising and dramatic life of the least known of King Henry VIII's wives is illuminated in the fourth volume in the Six Tudor Queens series—for fans of Philippa Gregory, Hilary Mantel, and The Crown. Newly widowed and the father of an infant son, Henry VIII realizes he must marry again to ensure the royal succession. Forty-six, overweight, and suffering from gout, Henry is soundly rejected by some of Europe's most eligible princesses. Anna of Kleve, from a small German duchy, is twenty-four, and has a secret she is desperate to keep hidden. Henry commissions her portrait from his court painter, who depicts her from the most flattering perspective. Entranced by the lovely image, Henry is bitterly surprised when Anna arrives in England and he sees her in the flesh. Some think her attractive, but Henry knows he can never love her. What follows is the fascinating story of an awkward royal union that somehow had to be terminated. Even as Henry begins to warm to his new wife and share her bed, his attention is captivated by one of her maids-of-honor. Will he accuse Anna of adultery as he did Queen Anne Boleyn, and send her to the scaffold? Or will he divorce her and send her home in disgrace? Alison Weir takes a fresh and astonishing look at this remarkable royal marriage by describing it from the point of view of Queen Anna, a young woman with hopes and dreams of her own, alone and fearing for her life in a royal court that rejected her almost from the day she set foot on England's shore.

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