

Discussion Questions for *The Metropolitan Affair* by Jocelyn Green

1. Lauren craves peace and hates conflict. Do you relate to this, or are you more like Joe, who's willing to confront in order to have justice?
2. Lawrence had a pattern of running to Egypt and ignoring the hard realities in his personal life. In what ways do people commonly try to run from problems today, even if they don't leave home?
3. In chapter 6, Lauren tells Joe, "The fact that the Egyptians believed in many things to save and protect them doesn't really set them apart from our culture today." What do you think our culture believes will bring happiness and protection from discomfort? What happens when we put all our trust in those things?
4. In chapter 9, Lauren notes that seeking affirmation is exhausting. Why do you think it's so tiring to pursue affirmation?
5. In chapter 11, we read that Lauren craved her father's approval, if she could not have his love. Even as an adult, how has your relationship with your parents affected your choices?
6. A recurring theme in the story is that people see what they want to see. When have you noticed this happening in your own life or with people around you?
7. Lauren longed for a restored relationship with her father, but as Greta told her, he wasn't doing his part. Have you ever had to set aside a relationship because it was harmful to you?
8. Near the end of the book, Lauren tells her audience in the lecture hall, "If you become an expert on the real thing, you'll know the counterfeit when you see it." In what ways can we apply this to different areas of our own lives?
9. Compare the Lauren at the end of the book to the Lauren from the beginning. In what ways has she changed? What has she lost, and what has she gained?
10. In what ways has God brought new, good things out of areas of your own life that you had previously considered a wasteland?