

## Discussion Questions for *Alice*

### From the book:

- When do you first suspect there may be more to Alice than she presents?
- Discuss Jack as a father – what did he do right?
- Discuss the feelings between Jack and Alice.
- Was it a completely selfish decision for Jack to sign Alice’s birth certificate? Or selfless?
- Jack has people skills. Alice warns Nina against them. Do we see him abuse those skills?
- Nina is frightened when her mother sits down in the bank. Why? On what levels?
- Alice was named after a song. Why does which song make such a difference to her?

### Some other questions you might want to discuss:

- Think about what we learn when Jack and Alice are talking by the campfire. They lived with a community of people while she was little, but were they a nuclear unit when she got older? Like Alice and Nina?
- Nina’s had the same friends since they were little, but they don’t live near her. Why might Alice have gone out of her way to support those continued friendships?
- Alice went to a sperm bank for Nina’s “other half” and we find out Jack might not be Alice’s biological father. Biology or role as father – which is more important?
- Nina takes a moment to describe Rosa Parks and lets us know Alice will follow her pattern. How important are the “quiet people” in society – are they fulfilling an important role by being quiet, or do they need to speak up? When?
- In the third world, the poor live in little shacks crowded together. In the United States, the homeless live in condemned housing or tents or cardboard boxes or shelters, while good buildings sit empty and decay. What can you do about it?
- Taxpayer advocacy organizations generally work to improve the existing tax systems, whereas a Taxpayer Civil Rights Movement would aim to fundamentally restructure those systems to address historical injustices through grassroots mobilization, litigation, and legislative change. Is there such a movement? If not, should there be?

My weekly newsletter caters to readers and writers: [sherimcguinn.substack.com](http://sherimcguinn.substack.com)

Review links for *Alice*:

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Every review helps – thank you.

*Thanks for reading!*