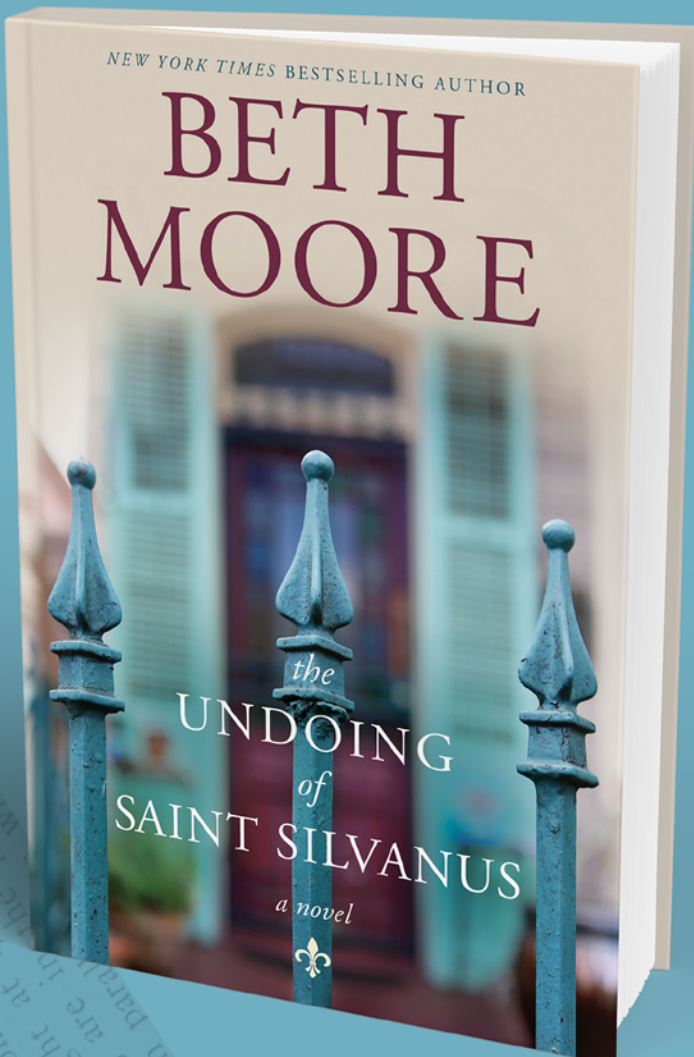




BKCLB

AUGUST 2023

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



THE UNDOING OF SAINT SILVANUS
BETH MOORE



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WEEK 1

1 At the beginning of the story, Adella connives to get Jillian and Olivia together. Do you think she was right to do that? Have you ever been involved in a setup like this? At what point does entering in the business of someone else’s relationships feel acceptable?

2 We don’t see much of Jillian’s friend Allie in the book because their friendship was badly damaged by Jillian choosing Vince over a commitment she made to Allie, as well as refusing to hear Allie’s concerns about the relationship. Have you ever had to tell a friend about a relationship that wasn’t good for them? Have you ever been told? What are the ways we can “speak the truth in love” when we see someone we care about making a big mistake? Or, do we stay quiet and pray them through?

3 The first time Jillian visits Stella, Stella apparently drugs her. Yet, Jillian doesn’t suspect it. She even continues to pursue a relationship with Stella. What is it about Jillian that causes her to ignore--or not even register--warning signs that something is wrong? How did Stella contribute to Jillian’s ignorance?

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WEEK 2

1

Stella uses tarot cards as part of her attempt to control and direct Jillian's thinking. How did that part of the story make you feel? Are things like tarot cards and crystals harmless? Or, a slippery slope?

2

What do you think Stella's motivation to terrorize Olivia and hurt Jillian was about? What was she truly after?

3

At one point in the book, Jillian fears she may be pregnant and recalls an earlier pregnancy that her mother 'took care of' by arranging an abortion. Jillian's mother, though, chose to continue her pregnancy with Jillian when she was unmarried and had ended things with Rafe. Why do you think Jaclyn kept her baby? How does Jillian's abortion impact the way she feels now?

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WEEK 3

1

Why do you think Jillian's mother was so adamant that Jillian stay with Vince? What do you think was at the root of her belief that a woman should tether to a man?

2

Jillian is like many women whose mothers have taught them an inaccurate and unhealthy view of themselves. In what ways have you seen this happen in your family or circle of friends? Where have you seen mothers trying to break this cycle?

3

David says he doesn't feel like Jesus could love the kind of person he is. Why do you think he feels this way? What kinds of things might make us feel that Jesus can't love who we are?

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WEEK 4

1 How do the historical sections give context to the environment of Saint Sans? How does the experiences of Reverend Brashear impact the current residents of Saint Sans?

2 How would you describe the choice of “undoing” as the title for this work? In what ways was the church undone?

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