

**Reading Group Guide for  
*In Firefly Valley*  
by Amanda Cabot**

1. Blake and Marisa fall in love almost at first sight, but as they learn more about each other, problems arise. Do you believe in love at first sight? Why or why not?
2. Lauren believes that people can change. Do you? Please give an example of why or why not.
3. As the story begins, Marisa has lost her job and has taken what she believes is a major step backward in her career. Have you or someone close to you ever been downsized? If so, how did you/they cope with it?
4. Marisa is disturbed by the fictional character Cliff Pearson's vices and refuses to read another Ken Blake book. Have you ever stopped reading a specific author because of a character's behavior? Why or why not? What would make you stop reading an author?
5. Lauren's second chance at love leads her to a man who's very different from her first husband. In thinking about your friends who've lost a mate through either death or divorce and have remarried, was the second spouse similar to or different from the first? Why do you think that's the case?
6. Do you think Marisa went too far in avoiding reminders of her father when she dyed her hair and chose contact lenses? What other ways could she have found to keep painful memories at bay?
7. Do you agree with Blake's use of a pseudonym and his insistence on anonymity? Why or why not?
8. Marisa and Carmen have very different reactions to Eric's disappearance. Why do you think that's the case?
9. Do you believe Marisa's anger at her father is justified? Why or why not? What could she have done differently?

10. Blake's grandfather had a strong influence on his childhood and adolescence. Do you have anyone like that in your life? If so, how did you deal with him or her?
  
11. Blake believes everyone is put on Earth to make it better in some way. Do you think he and Marisa are doing that? Why or why not?



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