

Reading Group Guide for
A Stolen Heart
by Amanda Cabot

(Spoiler alert—these questions assume you’ve already read the book)

1. When Lydia arrives in Cimarron Creek, her expectations are shattered. Do you believe she made the right decision when she remained? Why or why not?
2. Aunt Bertha is quick to offer Lydia a home, even though she’s a stranger. Do you think this was normal nineteenth century hospitality or something else? Would you have done the same?
3. Travis’s father has a strong aversion to Northerners. Does that seem reasonable to you, given his past? Why or why not?
4. When did you first realize that Aunt Bertha was hiding secrets? What were the clues?
5. Would you have hired Opal if you were Lydia? Why or why not?
6. My editors claimed that reading about Lydia’s confections made them hungry. Did you have the same reaction?
7. Aunt Bertha is a bit of a matchmaker. Do you believe this was simply another nineteenth century custom, or have you seen modern day matchmakers? What would you have done if you’d been in Lydia’s shoes?
8. Catherine’s mother suffers from the doctor’s use of what was called Heroic Medicine. We now know that bleeding and purging do more harm than good. Do you think that a hundred years from now people will consider our modern medicine as primitive as Heroic Medicine? If so, what parts of it do you think would be thought the most harmful?
9. Were you surprised by the villain’s identity? If not, what made you suspect him?
10. Fast forward five years after the end of the book. What changes do you think you’d see in Cimarron Creek?
11. And—the most critical question—what do you think happened to Joan?



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