



Book Club in a Bag

Discussion Questions

The Widow by John Grisham

1. At the start of the novel, how did you view Simon Latch? Did you find him to be a sympathetic character, a frustrating one, or something else entirely? How did your feelings about him evolve as he went from a greedy schemer to a wrongly convicted man?
2. How does Simon, a burnt-out and disillusioned lawyer, compare to other protagonists you might have encountered in this genre? Do you think his mid-career crisis makes his ethical collapse more believable or compelling?
3. The revelation that Netty Barnett's fortune was a fabrication is a major turning point. How did this twist affect your experience of the story? Did you see it coming, and how did it change your perspective on Simon's motivations and Netty's character?
4. Simon feels trapped by career burnout and financial pressures, which leads him down a disastrous path. Think about a time when you've felt intense pressure, either professionally or personally. How did you navigate that situation, and what do you think separates a justifiable compromise from a decision that crosses a moral line?
5. The novel shows how quickly a public narrative can form, like the "greedy lawyer" story that convicts Simon in the court of public opinion before he even enters a courtroom. Have you ever witnessed a situation where a simplified story took hold, regardless of the full truth? How does this aspect of the book connect to our modern world of social media and 24-hour news cycles?
6. A key subplot involves a hospital and a law firm covering up a serial killer's crimes to avoid liability and protect their profits. What does this part of the story suggest about the tension between corporate ethics and public safety?
7. What is the significance of Simon's secret apartment, which he calls "The Closet"? How does this physical space function as a symbol for his psychological state, his isolation, and his pattern of deception?

These questions were taken from <https://www.supersummary.com/the-widow-grisham/book-club-questions/> to enhance your discussion of the book.

Author Biography

OHN GRISHAM is the author of more than fifty consecutive #1 bestsellers, which have been translated into nearly fifty languages. His recent books include *Framed*, *Camino Ghosts* and *The Exchange: After the Firm*.

Grisham is a two-time winner of the Harper Lee Prize for Legal Fiction and was honored with the Library of Congress Creative Achievement Award for Fiction.
(<https://jgrisham.com>)

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