

• THE GIRLY BOOK CLUB •  
**ASK AGAIN, YES**  
BY MARY BETH KEANE

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1. Did you enjoy this book? Rate it out of 5.
2. This novel has been described as a “Domestic” novel. Do you feel that’s the right genre for this novel? Why or why not?
3. Ask Again, Yes is told from the perspective of many different characters (Kate, Peter, Francis etc.). How do you think this adds to the development of the story?
4. The title Ask Again, Yes references the discussion Kate and Peter have at the end of the book. Do you feel that it applies to any other characters?
5. How are mental health and addiction issues portrayed in the novel? Do the characters’ experiences differ due to the era they grow up in?
6. Who do you think is the most sympathetic character in the book? Who is the least likable?
7. When Francis discovers Anne at Peter and Kate’s house, are you surprised at how calm he is? Or is this in line with his character?
8. The theme of history repeating itself is central to this novel. Which characters most fall into these patterns? Are there characters that don’t?
9. Kate, Lena, and Anne are very different women. How is the role of the traditional wife and mother portrayed in this novel?
10. The shooting changes the lives of almost everyone in the novel. How different do you think the following relationships would have been had it never happened? i) Kate and Peter ii) Lena and Francis iii) Anne and Brian.
11. What do you think the future holds for Kate and Peter?
12. Do Francis Gleeson and Anne Stanhope—both Irish immigrants—experience things differently than their American-born spouses? Do you think this contributes to tensions within the couples, and between the two families?
13. What does the book’s title, "Ask Again, Yes," mean to you?