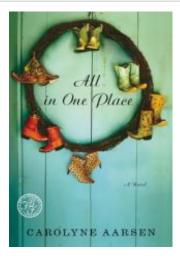
# ReadingGroupGuides

The online community for reading groups

## All in One Place

by Carolyne Aarsen



## About the Book

Terra Froese has spent most of her adult life bouncing from job to job, man to man, and drink to drink. But when her latest relationship and job simultaneously fall apart, she leaves Seattle for rural Montana to visit her sister, Leslie VandeKeere, to whom she hasn't spoken in over a year. If anyone can help Terra sort out her life, it'll be Leslie, who has managed success despite family odds and a recent move from city to country.

With plans to rescue herself and her sister from the threat of going nowhere, Terra's in for a big surprise?Leslie likes her new country life. When Terra rebels against her sister's conformity, how much wildness can the VandeKeeres stand in order to keep the family **All In One Place**?

## **Discussion Guide**

**1.** Terra has been living footloose and so-called fancy free. What are the advantages of a lifestyle like that? The disadvantages?

**2.** Terra carried a burden of guilt that took time for her to acknowledge. Why do you think she hid it? What were some of the things she felt guilty about? What are some of the things she should have felt guilty about?

3. Father Sam spoke of confession being a bridge to God. Do you agree? Why?

4. Many women are caught in situations that are destructive and abusive. How do you think this happens?

**5.** Terra originally only planned to stay with her sister, Leslie, for a short while. Why do you think she wanted to keep moving? What made her want to stay?

**6.** Why do you think the story-line of Leslie and Terra's mother wasn't resolved? How do you see that playing out? What are some possibilities for this situation that are realistic?

**7.** Terra befriended a young woman who was struggling. Could you identify with Terra's point of view of the situation? Have you ever made a wrong call on a situation based on your own experiences? if so, how did you resolve it?

8. Why do you think Terra assumed God would not forgive what she had done?

**9.** In this second book a recurring character Tabitha, shows up again making yet another set of mistakes. Why does it take some people a couple of times to learn a lesson? How do you think this was mirrored in Terra's life?

10. There are a couple of themes running through this book. What do you think one of them is?

### **Author Bio**

Though Carolyne Aarsen grew up in a city, she considers herself a full-fledged country person. When she's not writing, she's helping her husband with his logging business, their herd of cows, their horses and their chickens that managed to escape the clutches of the coyotes and owls. They are also involved with the youth in their church.

Because of her isolation from any kind of writing group, Carolyne learned to write by trial and error and by taking correspondence courses while she and her husband were raising their four natural children and the numerous foster children that came through their home. She documented the fun and foibles of their life in a weekly humor column carried in a number of Alberta newspapers.

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Publication Date: August 22, 2007 Genres: Christian, Fiction Paperback: 304 pages Publisher: FaithWords ISBN-10: 044669682X ISBN-13: 9780446696821