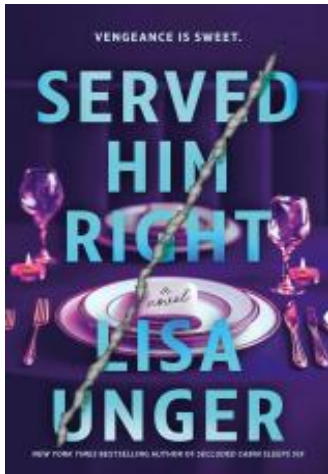


Served Him Right

by Lisa Unger



About the Book

A woman's brunch with friends quickly turns dark in this gripping thriller from *New York Times* bestselling author Lisa Unger.

Ana Blacksmith has gathered her closest friends and sister, Vera, for a brunch to celebrate her recent breakup from her boyfriend, Paul. But when shocking news about Paul arrives, all eyes are on Ana, the angry ex with a bad reputation. Suspicions only intensify when Ana's best friend falls deathly ill after the brunch.

But Ana is not the only one who had a score to settle with Paul. As the investigation unfolds, rumors of a secret network that uses ancient methods to obtain justice begin to emerge. Vengeance is sweet, but it also can be deadly. Ana and Vera are determined to find the truth before Ana takes the fall and their own long-buried history comes to light.

Discussion Guide

1. Sisters Ana and Vera have a very intense and layered relationship. What roles do they play in each other's lives? And how do they hurt and help each other?
2. At the beginning of the story, Vera hosts a brunch for Ana. It's an *ex-orcism*, a moment where she gathers all her closest friends together so that they can eradicate Ana's ex-boyfriend, Paul, from their social media feeds. Unfollow. Delete. Goodbye. Have you ever heard of this? What are your thoughts about how social media keeps us connected even when we'd rather sever all ties?
3. Plants and herbs, and their ability to harm and heal, play a pivotal role in this story. Discuss the nature themes that arise in *SERVED HIM RIGHT*. How did this element deepen the mystery of the plot?

4. Ana is a bad girl, one with a dark history, and dangerous proclivities. Or is she? Talk about Ana and all the ways she's powerful, frightening, vulnerable and even heroic at moments?
5. What does Ana's relationship to Iggy's baby reveal about her?
6. The Cove is a collection of women who tap into the power of the earth to heal --- and sometimes not. Discuss this group and if they were a force for good or bad in the story.
7. Discuss Coraline and her struggle with the legacy she has inherited. What are your thoughts about the importance of a child accepting the torch passed down by their parents, whether it's culture, language or family tradition?
8. What was your reaction to the ending of the novel? Was justice served?
9. A major theme that threads through the novel is the idea of female power and all the ways in which it is wielded, hidden, thwarted and often misunderstood. Talk about this idea. And in what ways does the story explore power dynamics between men and women?
10. How does food --- preparation, serving, consumption --- become a metaphor for power and dominance?
11. Do you think the title *Served Him Right* refers more to punishment, irony or something darker?

Author Bio

Lisa Unger is the *New York Times* and internationally bestselling author of 23 novels, including her latest, *SERVED HIM RIGHT*. With books published in 33 languages and millions of copies sold worldwide, she is regarded as a master of suspense.

Unger's critically acclaimed novels have been featured on "Best Book" lists from "Today," "Good Morning America," *Entertainment Weekly*, *People*, *Amazon*, Goodreads, *L.A. Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *Sun Sentinel*, *Tampa Bay Times* and many others. She has been nominated for, or won, numerous awards, including the Strand Critics, Audie, Hammett, Macavity, ITW Thriller and Goodreads Choice. In 2019, she received two Edgar Award nominations, an honor held by only a few authors, including Agatha Christie. Her short fiction has been anthologized in *The Best American Mystery and Suspense*, and her nonfiction has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *NPR* and *Travel+Leisure*.

Unger is the current co-President of the International Thriller Writers organization. She lives on the west coast of Florida with her family.

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