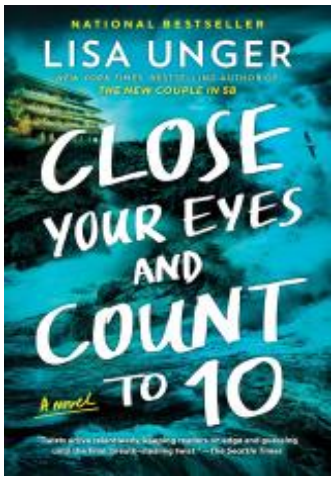
Close Your Eyes and Count to 10

by Lisa Unger



About the Book

An extreme game of hide-and-seek turns deadly in this riveting new thriller from *New York Times* bestselling author Lisa Unger.

When the real game begins, who will make it to the count of 10?

Charismatic daredevil and extreme adventurer Maverick Dillan invites you to the ultimate game of hide-and-seek. But as the players gather on Falcao Island, the event quickly spirals into a chilling test of survival. A storm rages as a deadly threat stalks the contestants, turning the challenge into something far more sinister than the social media stunt it was intended to be.

Enter Adele, a single mother with a fierce determination to protect her children at all costs. When she begins the game, she unwittingly enters a twisted web of deception and intrigue. Can she maneuver through the treacherous storm and the relentless competition and get home to her family? In a ruthless battle for survival where the stakes are higher than ever, the blurry line between the virtual and the real proves that the only person we can trust is ourselves.

Discussion Guide

1. The hotel in the book is based on a real place, an abandoned hotel in The Azores that the author stumbled across on her travels. If you follow Lisa Unger on Instagram, you might have seen the real footage of her visit. Is there anything that struck you about the setting? Have you ever been inspired to write or create art by a place you?ve visited?

2. Adele is a single mother leaving her teenage children for the first time home alone. Discuss her choice to do this. Why would she embark on this kind of enterprise? And is it worth it?

3. Adele?s children, Violet and Blake, have their own place and adventure in this story. Describe their relationship, their journey, and how their actions impact Adele and the game on Falcao Island.

4. At the beginning of the story, the Extreme team is confronted by Petra and her group of soldiers. Later in the story, Gustavo calls her a ?radical shaman.? What is her role in the story, either literally or symbolically? And what are her motivations?

5. Wild Cody was the beloved host of a nature show for children, but he suffered a terrible fall from grace. Discuss the trajectory of his career, the mistakes he?s made, and how he?s tried to make amends. How do you feel about cancel culture? What do you feel are the pros and cons of a public ?flogging? like the one Cody received?

6. What did you think of Angeline and Maverick?s relationship? Discuss the layers of who they were to each other throughout the book.

7. Maverick is a complicated character with lots of layers. What were his flaws? His strengths? What was redemptive about him, if anything? Did you ever want to just punch him the face?

8. What role does nature and the environment play in the story?

9. Not everybody makes it out of Enchantments alive. Did you feel that justice was served for all the characters in the end, that ultimately they got what they *deserved*? Would you have liked a different ending for anyone?

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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