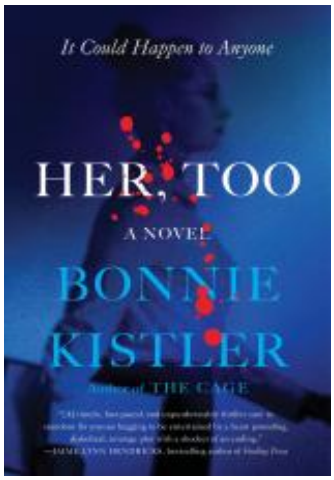
ReadingGroupGuides
The online community for reading groups

Her, Too

by Bonnie Kistler



About the Book

Defending an accused rapist, a high-powered lawyer learns firsthand the terrible truth about her client --- a discovery that propels her on a quest for justice and revenge in this addictively readable thriller from the author of THE CAGE.

Kelly McCann is a fighter. She?s fought to build a successful legal career, fought for the special needs of her family, and tirelessly fought for her clients. Her specialty is defending men accused of sex crimes --- falsely accused, she always maintains. Her detractors call her a traitor to her gender, but she doesn't care. Badass and brilliant, Kelly simply loves to win, and as the story opens, she's done it again, securing an acquittal for a renowned scientist accused of sexually assaulting his female employees.

But the thrill of her victory is short-lived. That very night, she, too, falls victim to a brutal sexual assault. And almost as horrific as the attack is the fact that she can't tell anyone it happened --- not without destroying her career in the process.

Kelly has never backed down from a fight, and she?s not about to start pulling her punches now. Joining forces with her rapist's other victims, the shrewd lawyer plans to turn the tables on him. It?s not only about justice --- these wronged women are out for revenge.

But someone, it seems, is out for them. And one by one, they find themselves facing even greater danger.

Discussion Guide

Please note: In order to provide reading groups with the most thought-provoking topics for conversation, this guide reveals some key plot points. If you haven?t yet finished HER, TOO and don?t wish to be spoiled, we recommend that you wait to read this guide until after you?ve finished the novel.

1. Kelly McCann began her law career as an assistant district attorney who specialized in prosecuting sex offenders. Now she defends people charged with similar crimes. What were her reasons for switching sides? What were her alternatives?

2. In recent years, many high-profile men charged with sex crimes have engaged female attorneys to represent them at trial. What difference do you think the gender of defense counsel might make? If a woman lawyer knows that?s the main reason she?s been hired, should it influence her decision to take the case?

3. Kelly?s stepdaughter, Courtney, accuses her of being a gender-traitor and complicit in her clients? crimes. Is this a fair accusation?

4. Benedict?s other victims --- the ones Kelly calls the NDA women --- signed non-disclosure agreements in exchange for financial settlements. Each had her own reason for doing so. Discuss the differences in their motivations. Consider the consequences of their silence. Can they be considered complicit?

5. Wives and partners of sex offenders often look the other way or rationalize their crimes. Some of them may even procure and groom the victims, e.g., Ghislaine Maxwell and Jeffrey Epstein. Benedict?s wife goes even further. Discuss her motivations.

6. Kelly is appalled to discover that her 14-year-old son apparently has been sexting with a teenaged girl. Do you think the boy?s behavior is the result of normal adolescent curiosity? Or does it evidence an attitude that a girl is merely a sex object? What can a mother do to raise a son who respects women?

7. Kelly?s investigator, Javier, has spent his life as a self-described ladies? man. Do you think his libidinous behavior is a form of sexual predation? Do you trust his declaration at the end of the novel that he?s changed his ways? If so, what do you think made him change? Love for his feminist wife or witnessing the behavior of Kelly?s clients? Or both?

8. At the end of the novel, Kelly decides she can?t maintain silence any longer, even though it means sacrificing her career. Ashley makes the opposite decision. Is there a third way? What would YOU do?

Author Bio

Bonnie Kistler is a former trial lawyer and the author of SHELL GAMES; HER, TOO; THE CAGE; and HOUSE ON FIRE.

Born and raised in Pennsylvania, she graduated from Bryn Mawr College, *magna cum laude*, with Honors in English literature, and received her law degree from the University of the Pennsylvania Law School.

She spent her law career in private practice with major law firms, primarily in Philadelphia, before becoming a full-time novelist. She and her husband now live in southwest Florida and the mountains of western North Carolina.

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Publication Date: July 4, 2023
Genres: Fiction, Psychological Suspense, Psychological Thriller, Suspense, Thriller, Women's Fiction
Paperback: 320 pages
Publisher: Harper Paperbacks
ISBN-10: 0063089203
ISBN-13: 9780063089204