Here One Moment

by Liane Moriarty



About the Book

If you knew your future, would you try to fight fate?

Aside from a delay, there will be no problems. The flight will be smooth, it will land safely. Everyone who gets on the plane will get off. But almost all of them will be forever changed.

Because on this ordinary, short, domestic flight, something extraordinary happens. People learn how and when they are going to die. For some, their death is far in the future --- age 103! --- and they laugh. But for six passengers, their predicted deaths are not far away at all.

How do they know this? There were ostensibly more interesting people on the flight (the bride and groom, the jittery, possibly famous woman, the giant Hemsworth-esque guy who looks like an off-duty superhero, the frazzled, gorgeous flight attendant), but none would become as famous as ?The Death Lady.?

Not a single passenger or crew member will later recall noticing her board the plane. She wasn?t exceptionally old or young, rude or polite. She wasn?t drunk or nervous or pregnant. Her appearance and demeanor were unremarkable. But what she did on that flight was truly remarkable.

A few months later, one passenger dies exactly as she predicted. Then two more passengers die, again, as she said they would. Soon no one is thinking this is simply an entertaining story at a cocktail party.

If you were told you only had a certain amount of time left to live, would you do things differently? Would you try to dodge your destiny?

Liane Moriarty?s HERE ONE MOMENT is a brilliantly constructed tale that looks at free will and destiny, grief and

love, and the endless struggle to maintain certainty and control in an uncertain world. A modern-day Jane Austen who humorously skewers social mores while spinning a web of mystery, Moriarty asks profound questions in her newest I-can?t-wait-to-find-out-what-happens novel.

Discussion Guide

1. Would you do anything differently if you knew the exact date you were going to die?

2. How did your opinion about Cherry change from when you first started the book to when you finished it?

3. Cherry calls herself ?the butterfly? and ?the agent of chaos.? What does she mean by that?

4. How do the passengers handle Cherry?s predictions in the days, weeks and months after the flight? Do you think their lives would have unfolded differently had it been an uneventful trip? Whose story --- or fate --- did you feel most invested in?

5. Do you believe that fate can be fought? Can it be changed? Do you think Cherry?s predictions were based on fate or helped put events in motion?

6. What might make a person take stock in the predictions of clairvoyants? Have you had any personal experiences with a clairvoyant that made you a believer --- or nonbeliever?

7. How does knowing Cherry?s life story help us understand her ?gift??

8. What does the book say about the power of words?

9. Do you think we all have a ?psychic? ability? Do you think it?s a supernatural sixth sense or simply being highly attuned to our environment and the signs around us?

10. In the end, is Cherry correct about her predictions?

11. Discuss the writing. How does Liane Moriarty create tension and emotion as the story unfolds?

12. What does the book tell us about chance? About intuition?

13. How do we cope with a world of uncertainty and unpredictability? How do the characters copy with the ?certainty? of their fates? Is it better to know or not know?

14. Did the themes throughout the book --- anxiety, fear, mortality, grief, hope --- resonate with you and how?

Author Bio

Liane Moriarty is the author of the #1 *New York Times* bestsellers BIG LITTLE LIES, APPLES NEVER FALL, THE HUSBAND'S SECRET, TRULY MADLY GUILTY and HERE ONE MOMENT; the *New York Times* bestsellers NINE PERFECT STRANGERS, WHAT ALICE FORGOT and THE LAST ANNIVERSARY; THE HYPNOTIST'S LOVE STORY; and THREE WISHES. She lives in Sydney, Australia, with her husband and two children.

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