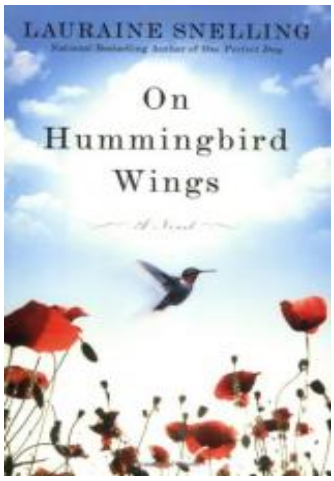
ReadingGroupGuides
The online community for reading groups

On Hummingbird Wings

by Lauraine Snelling



About the Book

When a phone call from her younger sister interrupts a busy morning at the office, Gillian is first surprised, then irritated. Allison has always been the favored sister --- the one who stayed close to home, got married, and gave their mother grandchildren. Gillian, on the other hand, moved across the country to become a corporate executive. Now, their mother needs a caretaker, and she is being asked to take a leave of absence from her life in New York City, return to California, and care for a woman whose primary ailment seems to be hypochondria?a woman she has never been close to.

She arrives to find the garden and yard wilted and brown, the blinds drawn, and her mother indeed in bed, waiting to die. Focused on restoring her mother?s health and will to live so she can return to her comfort zone two thousand miles away, Gillian is unprepared for this temporary situation to suddenly become brighter by the arrival of an older gentleman named Enzio, a pair of hummingbirds, and a handsome gardener. Perhaps the one thing New York is missing is the one thing she can no longer live without --- family.

Discussion Guide

1. An old adage says that as you age you will become more of whoever you are when younger. If you don?t like things about you now, what are you doing to change those dislikes before you get locked into bad habits?

2. Gillian clearly struggles with her tumultuous relationship with her mother. What do you think she might have done to smooth and repair this relationship?

3. Have you been through a similar situation? If so, how did you handle it? Are you pleased with the outcome?

4. Typically when siblings come home, they step right back into the roles they played as children. How do you see that happening in your life?

5. Many people are forced into starting their careers over, like Gillian was. What advice would you give someone in that situation?

6. Working in a garden, no matter how small, can bring healing on so many levels. What have you experienced in this area?

7. Heroes come in unlikely packages at times. How would you recognize one?

8. Gillian has found herself falling away from her childhood faith and upbringing. What experiences have you had in your life where life chips away at faith, rather than helping it grow?

Author Bio

Lauraine Snelling is the award-winning author of more than 100 books, fiction and nonfiction, for adults and young adults. Her books have sold more than five million copies. She makes her home in Tehachapi, California.

On Hummingbird Wings
by Lauraine Snelling

Publication Date: April 11, 2011
Paperback: 352 pages
Publisher: FaithWords
ISBN-10: 0446582115
ISBN-13: 9780446582117