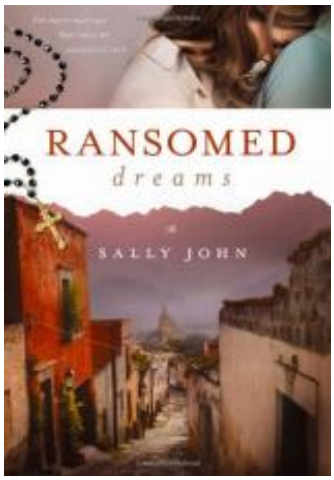
Ransomed Dreams: Side Roads Series, Book 1

by Sally John



About the Book

Sheridan Montgomery leads a charmed life as the wife of Eliot, U.S. ambassador to Venezuela. But an attack on their lives cripples Eliot, and they retreat to a remote Mexican village. As Sheridan quietly cares for her husband, she sees her dreams slipping away. Luke Traynor shatters their reverie when he arrives to tell Sheridan of her father?s heart attack and the evidence implicating him in a conspiracy. Sheridan returns to Chicago to untangle the web of her father?s past and is forced to confront her feelings for Luke, a trail of deceit, and the truth about her marriage.

Discussion Guide

1. The shooting changes everything for Sheridan and Eliot. What are some of the short-term effects on them? Long-term effects? Physically, emotionally, spiritually?

2. Have you ever experienced an event that upset your life in a profound way? What happened? What was your response to it? How did it impact relationships?

3. Discuss the relationship between Sheridan and Calissa. If you have siblings, how is your relationship with them similar to these two? How is it different?

4. Putting aside for a moment the mutual attraction between Sheridan and Luke, how might his love for her reflect the way Christ loves us?

5. What do you think of Sheridan?s response to the attraction between her and Luke? Luke?s response? How should people react when they find themselves drawn to individuals other than their spouses? What can a person do to prepare for or prevent this?

6. In what ways did you identify with Sheridan? What did you admire about her? What did you disagree with? You may not want to share details with others, but have you been faced with forgiving someone for deeply wounding you? How was your experience similar to or different from Sheridan?s?

7. Forgiveness occurs in several relationships in this novel: husband-wife, siblings, daughter-father. What was its effect on the different characters and relationships?

8. Sheridan?s detour brings her to the realization that her marriage is not what she signed up for. She must choose whether or not to stay in it. At first it is a decision of her will: she will stay because that is what she promised and what she believes God wants her to do. At what point does her decision become heartfelt as well as intellectual?

9. Many marriages reach a similar point at some time: ?My marriage is not what I signed up for.? How does this happen? Is it a normal ?season? of marriage? What are some possible ways to get through such a season?

10. Sheridan wants what she has lost: her marriage as it once was and the work she found so meaningful. Discuss the balance between clinging to a dream and letting it go and trusting God with it. Have you faced a similar situation at some point in your life? How can we tell if our dreams have become more important to us than the God who inspired them?

11. What dreams do you have for the future?

Author Bio

Sally John is the author of the popular THE OTHER WAY HOME and *In a Heartbeat* series, including A JOURNEY BY CHANCE and IN A HEARTBEAT. A three-time finalist for the Christy Award and a former teacher, she lives in Southern California with her husband, Tim. Writing fiction takes a backseat only to her cherished roles of wife, mom, mom-in-law and grandma.

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