ReadingGroupGuides
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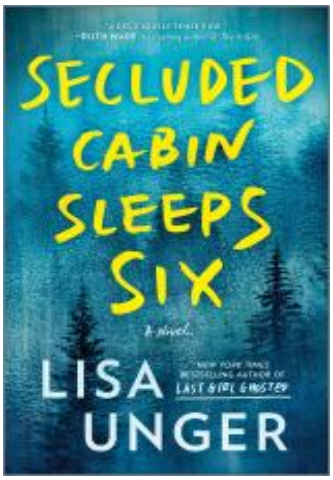
Secluded Cabin Sleeps Six

by Lisa Unger



About the Book

Three couples rent a luxury cabin in the woods for a weekend getaway to die for in this chilling locked-room thriller by *New York Times* bestselling author Lisa Unger.

What could be more restful than a weekend getaway with family and friends? An isolated luxury cabin in the woods, spectacular views, a hot tub and a personal chef. Hannah?s generous brother found the listing online. The reviews are stellar. It'll be three couples on this trip with good food, good company and lots of R&R.

But the dreamy weekend is about to turn into a nightmare.

A deadly storm is brewing. The rental host seems just a little too present. The personal chef reveals that their beautiful house has a spine-tingling history. And the friends have their own complicated past, with secrets that run blood deep.

How well does Hannah know her brother, her own husband? Can she trust her best friend? Meanwhile, someone is determined to ruin the weekend, looking to exact a payback for deeds long buried. Who is the stranger among them?

Discussion Guide

1. In the prologue, a Secret Santa leaves a DNA-testing kit for Hannah and her family. Everyone has a different reaction and opinion about the gift. Discuss each character?s reaction and what it might say about them.

2. It?s clear as Hannah and Bruce are heading out to the weekend getaway with Mako, Liza, Cricket and her new boyfriend that there are already tensions and complicated dynamics at play between members of the group. What did you pick up on right away?

3. At first, Henry?s story seems to be unconnected to the crew that?s traveling to the remote cabin. Did you have early thoughts on who Henry might be and how he fits into the story? How did they evolve as the story unfolded?

4. There are shifting perspectives on the group gathering inside the cabin. We see them close up through Hannah?s eyes, from just outside the cabin through the point of view of a malicious stranger, and from an even farther distance through Bracken?s cameras. What do we learn from each perspective --- about the watchers and the watched?

5. At the dinner, Chef Jeff shares the dark history of the house the family is renting. How did you feel about the cabin before and after?

6. What did you make of the use of bone in the decor of the house? The statues upstairs, the chandeliers and the bone sculpture in the dining room?

7. Chef Jeff brings up the concept of ?memento mori.? Were you familiar with this phrase? What does it mean to you? How does Hannah feel about it?

8. Hannah, her brother Mako and their longtime family friend Cricket have a complicated relationship. Discuss how each relates to the other. What role does each person play in the group?

9. Have you ever used a vacation rental service like the one in the book? What has your experience been? Do you know of any horror stories? Having now read this novel, will you think twice next time you plan to take a trip?

10. Do you know anyone who has taken a DNA test before and had surprising results? If you haven?t taken one, would you ever consider it? Why or why not?

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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