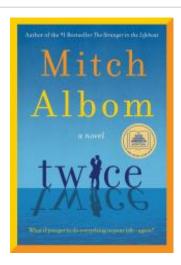
ReadingGroupGuides

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Twice

by Mitch Albom



About the Book

What if you got to do everything in your life --- twice? The heart of Mitch Albom?s newest novel is a stunning love story that dares to explore how our unchecked desires might mean losing what we?ve had all along.

When he is eight years old, Alfie Logan discovers the magical ability to get a second chance at everything. He can undo any moment and live it again. The one catch: he must accept the consequences of his second try --- for better or worse.

He grows up correcting his mistakes and saving himself from adolescent embarrassments. He even takes foolishly dangerous risks, just to see what it?s like to come close to death, before tapping back to safety.

Eventually, Alfie turns his gift to his love life, studying his crushes and going back to make himself more appealing. In time, he falls deeply in love with Gianna, the woman he believes is the one. He seems to find contentment.

But as the years pass, Alfie?s eye begins to wander. Which is when he learns a lone caveat to his power: once he undoes a love, that person can never fall in love with him again. Knowing if he gives in to temptation, he will risk losing what he has with Gianna, Alfie makes a choice that changes his life forever.

The book begins many years later, after an ailing Alfie is arrested for allegedly cheating and winning millions at a casino roulette wheel. As a curious detective interrogates him, he slowly uncovers Alfie?s incredible story and its most unlikely conclusion.

In TWICE, America?s favorite storyteller, Mitch Albom, is at the top of his powers. A love story that is enchanting, probing and clairvoyant in matters of the heart, TWICE will make you think, weep and overflow with love from beginning to end.

Discussion Guide

- **1.** The story begins with Alfie telling Detective LaPorta his story is ?a love story.? How does the book define love? Is it primarily about romance, sacrifice or something else entirely?
- **2.** Alfie has the ability to live his life ?twice.? How does this concept of a second chance differ from simply learning from one?s mistakes? Discuss the ?rules? of his ability, such as not being able to prevent his mother?s death, and how these limitations shape his choices.
- **3.** A central quote from the book is ?What is it about love that makes us think we can tame it, when all the while it is taming us?? How does this idea play out in Alfie?s relationship with Gianna?
- **4.** The theme of memory is symbolized by the elephant. In what ways is Alfie?s perfect recall of his past life a burden? In what ways is it a gift?
- **5.** Near the end of the book, Alfie seems to conclude that helping others is the most meaningful part of life. How does this realization contrast with his initial motivations in his second life?
- **6.** The story is framed by Alfie?s interrogation by Detective LaPorta. How does LaPorta?s perspective on Alfie shift from seeing him as a common casino cheat to something more? What does Alfie?s confession ultimately reveal to LaPorta?
- **7.** Compare the Alfie from his first life, who has an affair, with the Alfie of his second life. What key events or realizations trigger this transformation in his character?
- **8.** Discuss Gianna Rule?s journey. For most of the book, she is unaware of the cosmic events revolving around her. How does her character evolve on its own, and how does the final revelation of Alfie?s secret change her understanding of her own life?
- **9.** Alfie?s mother is a complex character whose choices deeply influence him. How do her own stories of regret and her past shape Alfie?s views on love and sacrifice?
- **10.** Alfie tells LaPorta, ?Suspicion and belief can?t share the same bed.? How does this statement reflect the core conflict not just for LaPorta, but for Alfie himself as he navigates his extraordinary life?
- 11. Alfie wins over two million dollars at the roulette table and immediately wires it to Gianna Rule. What was the significance of this act? Was it about the money, or was it meant to send a different kind of message?
- 12. The novel explores the idea of second chances. If you had the opportunity to relive a period of your life, what would it be and why? What would you hope to learn or change, not just about the events, but about yourself?
- 13. Alfie?s journey is heavily influenced by his regrets. Think about a time you wished you had done something differently. How does that memory shape your decisions today?

14. TWICE emphasizes the profound impact of our relationships. Which relationship in your own life has taught you the

most about love, forgiveness or sacrifice?

15. Alfie grapples with difficult moral choices where there is no easy answer. Have you ever faced a decision where

your head and your heart were in conflict? How did you navigate it?

16. The story suggests that small, seemingly insignificant moments can have the biggest impact. What is a small moment

from your past that you now realize was a major turning point?

17. After reading about Alfie?s two lives, has your perspective on what constitutes a ?successful? or ?meaningful? life

changed at all? What does a well-lived life look like to you now?

18. The book deals with the weight of unspoken words and feelings. Is there something you wish you had said to

someone? What does the story teach us about the importance of communication?

19. Consider the sacrifices characters make for one another. What is the biggest sacrifice you have ever made for

someone else, or that someone has made for you? What did that experience teach you?

20. In the end, was Alfie?s life a tragedy or a triumph? Discuss whether his ability to live twice ultimately brought him

happiness or just a different kind of pain.

Author Bio

Mitch Albom is the author of numerous books of fiction and nonfiction, which have collectively sold more than 42

million copies in 48 languages worldwide. He has written seven #1 New York Times bestsellers --- including

TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE, the bestselling memoir of all time, which topped the list for four straight years --- award-

winning TV films, stage plays, screenplays, a nationally syndicated newspaper column, and a musical. Through his work

at the Detroit Free Press, he was inducted into both the National Sports Media Association and Michigan Sports halls of

fame and is the recipient of the 2010 Red Smith Award for lifetime achievement.

He founded the nonprofit SAY Detroit, which provides pathways to success for Detroiters in need through major health,

housing and education initiatives. He also founded a dessert shop and a gourmet popcorn line to help fund it. Albom

operates Have Faith Haiti, a home and school for impoverished children and orphans in Port-au-Prince, which he visits

monthly. He lives with his wife, Janine, in Michigan.

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