



27 September - 11 October, 2023

### Book club discussion guide

1. Emily calls her father 'a master of disguise' for his ability to hide his failing cognitive abilities. How does this theme of 'things not always being as they seem' apply to other events and characters in the book?
2. Why do you think there is an expectation from Raewyn that Emily should stay and care for her aging father rather than her siblings? Is this reasonable?
3. Although his memento box contained evidence that Felix loved and felt proud of his daughter, he had never shown Emily how he felt. Why? Does this make his love worth less?
4. When Felix gives Emily the envelope to open after his death, he knows he will ultimately forget what has happened due to his advancing Alzheimer's. Given Felix's condition, do you think Emily should have opened it sooner? Would you have been tempted to open the envelope?
5. Compare the different qualities of the Parata family and the Kirkland family. Which more closely reflects what family means to you?
6. How effective was the natural setting in creating and reflecting a sense of the story's themes?
7. If you could have a chat with any character from the novel, who would it be and why?
8. What upcoming title are you looking forward to reading next?