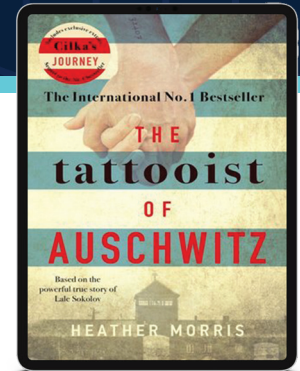


10-24 September, 2020



Discussion Guide

- 1 How did you feel about Lale when he was first introduced, as he arrived in Auschwitz? How did your understanding of him change throughout the novel?
- 2 What qualities did Lale have that influenced the way he was treated in the camp? Where did those qualities come from?
- 3 Survival in the camp depended on people doing deeds of questionable morality. Lale became the Tattooist, but how did Gita's choices affect her survival? What about her friend, who befriended a Nazi?
- 4 Inmates in the concentration camp had to make life-or-death decisions every day. Why did some make the 'right' decisions and survive, while others did not?
- 5 *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* makes clear that there were also non-Jewish prisoners in the camp. How did the treatment of Jews differ from the treatment of non-Jews? How did different treatments manifest themselves?
- 6 Had Gita and Lale met in a more conventional way, would they have developed the same kind of relationship? How did their circumstances change the course of their romance?
- 7 In what ways were the relationships between Gita and her friends different from the usual friendships between teenage girls? In what ways were they similar?
- 8 In what ways was Lale a hero? In what ways was he an ordinary man?
- 9 Lale faced danger even after the camp was liberated. How did his experiences immediately after liberation prepare him for the rest of his life?
- 10 How does *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* change your perceptions about the Holocaust in particular, and war in general? What implications does this book hold for our own time?