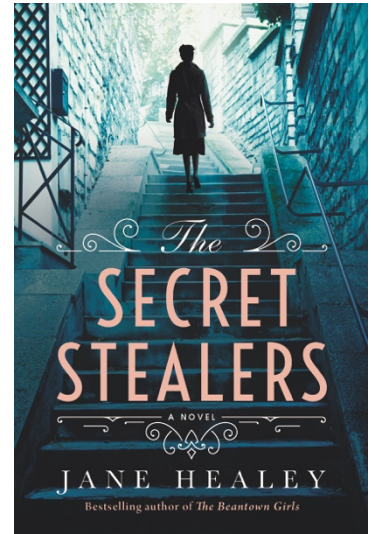


# BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

1. How does Anna Cavanaugh's character develop throughout the novel? What personal challenges does she face, and how do they shape her role as a spy?
2. The camaraderie and friendships among the women in the OSS play a significant role in the story. How do these relationships impact Anna's journey and the overall narrative?
3. How does Anna balance her grief as a widow with her desire to contribute to the war effort? Do you think her personal loss influences her decisions?
4. The novel explores gender roles during the 1940s. How do the women in *The Secret Stealers* defy societal expectations of their time? How might their experiences differ if they lived today?
5. What does the book reveal about the underestimated role of women spies during World War II? How did this underestimation work to their advantage?
6. Discuss how the novel portrays life under Nazi occupation in France. Did it give you a deeper understanding of this period in history?
7. The story blends historical fact with fiction, including appearances by real-life figures like Julia Child. How well do you think Jane Healey balanced these elements? Did it enhance your enjoyment of the story?
8. The novel is written from Anna's first-person perspective. How does this narrative style influence your connection to her character and the events of the story?
9. If you were in Anna's position, do you think you would have volunteered for such a dangerous mission? Why or why not?



JANE HEALEY

10. War often forces ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Which character's actions or sacrifices stood out to you most, and why?
11. Have you ever felt liberated or empowered by helping someone else, as Anna does through her work?
12. Jane Healey conducted extensive research for this novel, including studying declassified OSS files and visiting Paris. Did any historical details or author's notes at the end surprise you? Which ones?
13. What did you think of how Healey used Anna's personal transformation to reflect broader themes of resilience and purpose during wartime?

JANE HEALEY