

# A Million Little Things

## Readers Discussion Guide

### SUGGESTED BOOK CLUB MENU

Miguel's Steak Fajita Quesadillas (recipe follows the discussion questions)

Black beans

Chips and salsa

Margaritas (of course!)

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Note: The questions themselves contain spoilers, so you should wait to read them until you've finished the book.*

1. The three heroines—Zoe, Jen, and Pam—had three distinct storylines, but they impacted each other. Talk first about each heroine's character arc, and then discuss the points at which they intersected. How did the events of one character's life change the events of another's? Which story created the most emotion in you? Why?
2. Why do you think Jen was so convinced there was something wrong with her son? Did you applaud her efforts to get him help, or did you think she should have done something different? Did your feelings change throughout the course of the story?
3. Do you think the relationship between Zoe and Jen was a friendship of equals? Why or why not? What about the friendship between Zoe and Pam?
4. Did your feelings about Pam change because of how she behaved after she found out that Zoe was pregnant? What made you understand why she felt the way she did, if anything? What do you think made her come around?
5. Toward the end of the book, Pam says of her son Steven, "I can't protect him from everything." How was this theme illustrated in the story? Did you recognize any other themes as you read?
6. Discuss the line between protective and overprotective. How did the characters cross that line? Have you ever gone too far when trying to protect the people you love?
7. What did the characters learn because of what happened in the story? Which character grew or changed the most? Do any of those lessons apply to your life?
8. Discuss the men in the book—Steven, Kirk, Miguel, Lucas, and Chad. Did each heroine end up with the right man? Why or why not? Which man did you like the most, and why?
9. What did you think of the relationship between Jen and Lucas? Did you expect something different to happen? Did you like the way this relationship was handled? Why or why not?
10. Pam's story started in *The Girls of Mischief Bay*. Did you read the first Mischief Bay book? If not, do you want to go back and read it now? If some people in your group did read the first book and others did not, discuss how your perception is different.

## Miguel's Steak Fajita Quesadillas

2 ribeye steaks, sliced ¼-inch thick, then cut into 1-inch pieces

### Marinade:

Juice of three limes

½ C tequila (too bad you can't use Saldivar tequila!)

2 T triple sec or other orange-flavored liqueur

1 jalapeno, seeded and diced

3 cloves garlic, minced

2 t salt

2 t cumin

8 oz Monterrey jack cheese, shredded

8 flour tortillas

Mix together the marinade ingredients, then pour over the steak. Marinate for 2-3 hours, stirring occasionally. Drain and discard marinade. Cook beef pieces on the stove in a heavy-bottomed pan over medium-high heat for 2-3 minutes per side. Set aside and wipe out the pan with a paper towel. Lower heat to medium-low. Place a flour tortilla in the pan, sprinkle with cheese. Place one-quarter of the steak pieces on it, then top with more cheese and another tortilla. When the cheese on the bottom has melted, carefully flip over and cook another minute or so. Cut the quesadillas into wedges and serve warm.

