

Discussion Questions

***Rules of Murder* by Julianna Deering**

1. Drew Farthering enjoys all the privileges of wealth and social standing, and yet he feels as if he's missing something. Why do you think that is?
2. Have you read any books written by the classic writers of the "Golden Age of Mystery" such as Christie, Sayers, or Allingham? If so, how do you feel *Rules of Murder* captured that era?
3. Did you have a favorite character or scene? If so, which one(s) and why?
4. Madeline Parker is unlike the girls Drew has known all his life. Why do you think he's so suddenly drawn to her? Is his interest only superficial or is it more significant than that?
5. Madeline tells Drew he's making religion more difficult than it needs to be and that all one really needs to do is glorify God and enjoy him forever. Is she right? Explain.
6. Madeline and Drew are at very different places spiritually when the story begins. How have they each changed by the end of the book? Were these changes believable to you? Why?
7. Did you solve the mystery before it was revealed? Was the solution believable based on the evidence presented throughout the story?
8. How did Drew's image of his father and mother change in the course of the story? What was it that brought about the change?
9. What kind of friend is Nick to Drew? To Madeline? Have you ever had someone like Nick in your life? How would you describe this sort of relationship?
10. Did you notice differences between the way the American characters spoke and the way the English characters did? Did you feel this added to the story?
11. Where do you see Drew and Madeline's relationship in five years? In ten?
12. If you were casting a film version of *Rules of Murder*, who would you put into the lead roles? How would you change the story to adapt it to film? Why?