

Reading Group Guide for
The Dilemma of Charlotte Farrow: A Novel
by Olivia Newport

1. Charlotte struggles to believe she has the ability shape her own future. How much of this do you think was part of her time, when women had limited options, and how much is part of her character?
2. How are Charlotte's responses to her fears similar or different to how you respond to your fears?
3. What do you think is the deepest value Charlotte holds, and how does it determine the theme of the book? How do your values determine the theme of your life?
4. Describe the strength Archie brings to Charlotte? Identify some people in your life who bring you strength.
5. Archie wants Charlotte to believe that love makes a difference, and hope is possible. What do you think is the link between love and hope in this story and in your own life?
6. What growth do you see in Sarah's character? What factors do you think influence how an individual grows and changes?
7. Identify three turning points where the story might have been very different if Charlotte had chosen differently.
8. Archie and Emmaline have contrasting understandings of God's will. Which do you identify with more? What is the most challenging part for you in discerning God's will?
9. Choose your favorite character and share three words that describe the character and illustrate your choice with events in the story.
10. The 1893 World's Columbian Exposition was a pivotal event for Chicago, the United States, and even the world. It introduced millions to emerging technologies, including electricity, and social issues such as women's suffrage. Can you think of an event in recent history that had similar worldwide impact?

