

## THE PARIS NETWORK

### BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION PROMPTS

If you were living in France during the Second World War do you think you would have been brave enough to meet as a resistance book club, reading titles that were banned?

Were you surprised by any of the books that were banned by the Nazis? Have you read any of the banned books featured in *The Paris Network*? Has the novel encouraged you to read any of the banned books or poems?

Laurence often uses poems as her prescriptions to make her customers feel better. If you had to prescribe a poem to someone who was struggling in some way what would it be?

Do you think it's ever right to ban a book? If so, under what circumstances?

Although *The Paris Network* is a work of fiction the things that happen in the plot were rooted in historical fact. Were there any historical details in the novel that surprised you?

What did you think of the 1993 storyline? Do you like historical novels that feature a more modern day storyline or would you prefer the story to remain in the historic time period?

Do you think Wendell is right to blame himself for what happens to Laurence? Do you think she would have left with him if he'd asked her the last time they see each other in the forest?

Although Jeanne never met Laurence she was still able to learn and gain a lot from her. What would you say was the most important gift Laurence gave to her daughter?

Like many veterans of World War 2 Wendell never talked about his experiences in the Air Force until Lorilee dies, almost fifty years after the war ended. Was he right to bury it all and not tell Jeanne the truth about her mother?

Do you think Laurence was right to risk distributing the leaflet at the end of the book given that she was now a mother?

Has reading *The Paris Network* made you see books and their importance in a different light? If so, how?