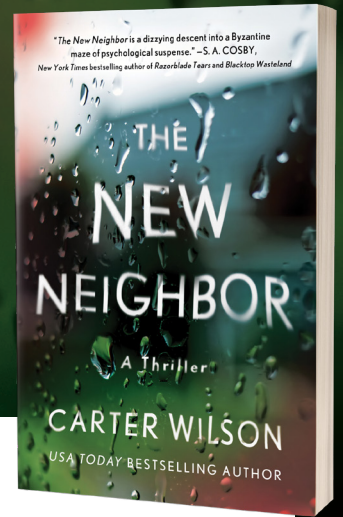


THE NEW NEIGHBOR

BY CARTER WILSON

DISCUSSION GUIDE



1. What would you do if you won the lottery? Would that change if your win came after terrible news like Marlowe's?
2. Like his father, Marlowe always plays the same lotto numbers, but Marlowe's numbers each represent something significant to him. If you were to use significant numbers from your own life, what would they be and why?
3. In choosing Bury, Marlowe leaves behind everything he knows. Why did he do that, and what are the unintended consequences for himself, Bo, and Maggie?
4. Threatening notes would be disturbing no matter what, but how did you feel about the signature: WE WHO WATCH? How does the suggestion of a group change the way Marlowe investigates?
5. Despite the threats and the house's unsettling history, Marlowe refuses to consider selling. Why? Would you cut your losses in his position?
6. Describe Marlowe's parenting style. How does his concern for Bo and Maggie manifest itself?
7. The security advisor triggers Marlowe's paranoia. Would you be willing to fill out the invasive questionnaire? Did you see an alternative?
8. List Marlowe's coping mechanisms. How many of them are self-destructive?
9. How did you feel when you found out how Christopher died? If he'd lived, what kind of man do you think he would have become?
10. Marlowe believes in fate and superstitions. Do you? If everything happens for a reason, how would you explain the end of the book?
11. Characterize Chief Sike. How did your first impression of him compare to your feelings at the end of the book?