

Book Club Questions

The Heir Apparent by Rebecca Armitage

1. When Lexi flies to London following the deaths of her father and brother, we see her transformation from private citizen to public royal unfolding en route: wardrobe, hair, and manicure all remade before landing. What is that meant to signify and foreshadow? What does it tell you about royal life and obligations, and do you feel those obligations are still relevant or necessary today?
2. On the night Lexi arrives in London, what first impressions did you gather from her reunion with Amira?
What does their conversation reveal about their friendship and Amira's role in the royal family?
3. As the palace discusses the plans for the funeral, Lexi notes how even small details—the procession order, the choice of flowers—can have cascading effects. Considering the movements of the royal family members so far, what are some details that stood out to you, and did they yield large consequences?
4. How does Queen Eleanor balance her familial and royal responsibilities, being Lexi's grandmother as well as the Queen of England? Do you feel she gives each role equal weight?
5. Lexi feels betrayed when she learns that Louis was given their mother's engagement ring. In their argument—unbeknownst to them, their last meaningful time together before Louis's death—did you sympathize with one or both of them?
6. How would you describe Lexi's resolve and conflicting emotions during the trip to the Highlands?
7. Did Lexi change during the year of weighing her options and fending off Uncle Richard's attempts to seize power? How so?
8. What was your reaction upon learning the truth about Lexi's mother's death? How do Lexi's recurring dreams set up this revelation?
9. If Louis and Kris had survived, with Louis eventually crowned King, do you think they would have been able to have a public life together?
10. Some of the characters aren't what they initially seem, or change over the course of the novel. Can you think of a character who might fit either description? Which character wound up surprising you the most?
11. After this glimpse behind fictional palace gates, was there anything about royal life that might appeal to you, might make you understand if Lexi had made a different decision?
12. Who were your favorite characters?

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