

*Discussion Questions*

1. Is Oliver a reliable narrator? Do you trust him more or less as you learn more about him as the story progresses? Why?
2. What does Oliver fail to learn in his childhood about treating women?
3. How do the narrators bring Oliver's character into focus? Which narrator would you have liked to hear more from?
4. Whose story is missing from the narrators? What do you think he or she would say about Oliver?
5. Why does Oliver not want children? Does his reason change over time?
6. Does Oliver understand how to be a father? Why or why not?
7. Why do Oliver and Laura break up? What role did the events of the summer in France play in their relationship?
8. Why does Oliver marry Alice? How might things have turned out differently for Alice had she not gone to a Greek island with Oliver? Would they have still ended up together?
9. Did Oliver love Laura? Did he love Alice? Compare the two relationships.
10. To what lengths will Oliver go in order to protect his secrets? Does Oliver take responsibility for his actions?