

Discussion Questions for Stones of Remembrance

1. Have you ever experienced loss in your life? How did you navigate through it? Was God an integral part of your process? What got you through that time?
2. In the book, God has a voice and speaks freely to Finn and Allaya. Have you ever heard his voice as clearly as they did? Do you believe that he speaks that clearly to his children, or were you envious of the ease with which the characters heard his voice?
3. The author does not shy away from the physical aspect of Finn and Allaya's attraction to one another. Did you feel like the struggle was realistic and an accurate description of the tension that arises between a man and a woman? Why do you think Christian romance tends to shy away from this struggle?
4. Allaya has spent two years running from God, yet all it took was one act of obedience – going to the lake house – for her to feel his presence so strongly again. Is God really that close to us all the time? Do you ever feel like you've pushed him so far away that you won't be able to get back to him?
5. Allaya's dream was directly related to what she was going through, and when she woke up, she saw it for what it was. Have you ever had a dream so vivid and so meaningful? Have you ever had a dream interpreted for you? Share a dream that meant something to you, or one that has always stuck with you, whether you've only dreamed it once, or repeatedly.
6. Read Romans 8:18-28. Allaya's greatest struggle was believing that God is good in spite of all the things she thought was wrong with the world, including her sister's death. Do you feel like you struggle to trust that God is good? Do you believe that he works all things for our good? Share a time when you doubted God. What was the outcome of that circumstance? Are you able to look back and see his hand working to fulfill his promise of goodness?
7. The happiest moments of Allaya's recovery time at the lake house were when she and Finn were remembering their childhood adventures. What is your favorite childhood memory? Did you attend a summer camp, or did your family take an annual vacation to a particular spot? Share your childhood "happy place."
8. If you were in Allaya's shoes, how would you have responded at Thanksgiving Dinner when Finn showed up unannounced? How do you respond in moments of surprise? Do you like surprises? Share your most memorable surprise moment.

9. What was your response when Finn saw Allaya standing in the window during the storm? Where did you think the author was going to go with that situation?
10. Why do you think the author focused so much energy on the physical relationship between Finn and Allaya? How did you feel, emotionally, spiritually and physically while you read the scenes where things became heated between the two main characters?
11. Allaya never wanted to regret her first sexual experience, but because of the events that followed, she now does. Do you think she still would have regretted it if she and Matthew had married as planned? What was your upbringing like in regards to talking about sex? Were your parents open, or closed to the topic? Was it presented as wrong or shameful? Were you left to your own choices, or was it expressed to be something special between a husband and wife? Based on your own experiences, how will you or did you talk to your own children about sex?