

Discussion Questions for *The Reluctant Matchmaker*

Book Club Guide

1. Despite growing up in a culture that places so much emphasis on arranged marriage, a practice that has worked well for so many in her family, why do you think Meena Shenoy firmly rejects the notion? Discuss the concept of arranged marriage.
2. Discuss the pros and cons of growing up in a mixed cultural environment like Meena and Prajay have. Does straddling two or more diverse cultures help or hinder personal growth?
3. Despite Prajay's remarks that he doesn't place emphasis on looks, he still wants to marry someone based on physical appearance. Discuss the contradictions and the implications of his statement.
4. Discuss Meena's relationship with Deepak Iyer. What does Deepak bring to her life and to the story?
5. Meena's mother is a successful career woman and a dominant matriarch. How does she influence her children's lives?
6. After admitting to herself that she's in love with Prajay, why is the intrepid Meena so afraid to confess that love to him?
7. What roles do Meena's brothers play in her life? How do they factor into her quest for the perfect man?
8. Discuss the scene that involves Prajay's young niece and nephew. How do they enhance the story?
9. Akka, Meena's elderly great-aunt, plays an influential part in Meena's story. How does Akka bring a whole new twist to the plot?
10. Another character who makes the story more complicated is Ajit Baliga. Discuss his role in the story.