

QUESTIONS ABOUT
"THE TROUBLE WITH PLAYING CUPID"
Part 3

This book is a romance between two celebrities, December Brown and Tom Elmswood. December is a singer and Tom is a movie star. After being thrown together in a very embarrassing fashion, they spend the rest of the book trying to sort out their feelings for each other, although these feelings are never in doubt to the reader. The dialog is clever, glib, and quirky. It is how we all imagine we speak when we are at our best.

The questions below cover chapters 12 through 17, which contain 64 pages.

Chapter 12

1. What do Tom and Dee plan for the afternoon?
2. Who drives the car to the theater?

Chapter 13

3. Is Tom a good driver? Describe his driving.
4. After the movie, Tom invites Dee to his apartment. What are his motives?
5. Americans use the terms, "making out," "necking," and "petting," for some activities they engage in on "dates." On page 113 the expression, "locking lips," is used. What do these expressions mean? Do young people have "dates" in your culture. Do they engage in similar activities on their "dates"?
6. On page 115 the expression, "air kisses," is used. What does this mean? What does it say about the person doing it?
7. On page 116 the expression, "canoodling," is used. What does this expression mean?

Chapter 14

8. When Tom shows Dee his apartment, she finds it cold and sterile. She doesn't believe the décor is his taste. "If he'd actually decorated it himself," Dee says, "she'd buy a hat just to eat it." What does the expression, "I'll eat my hat," mean?
9. Why does Trace phone Dee?
10. What do Trace and Dee discuss?

11. Pasta primavera is an Italian dish? What are the ingredients? Given the description Tom gives of the contents of his refrigerator, is it likely he has the necessary ingredients?
12. How did Tom learn to cook?
13. What kind of wine does Dee like? Does Tom choose a wine that she likes?
14. What analogy does Tom use to explain finding a soul mate? What is a soul mate?

Chapter 15

15. When Tom wants to talk about Dee to somebody, whom does he choose?
16. What is her reaction?

Chapter 16

17. What is the relationship between Tom's stepfather and Dee?
18. Where does Dee decide to spend Christmas?
19. Whom will Tom meet Friday?
20. Tom invites Dee to accompany him to Malaysia. Does she accept?

Chapter 17

21. What does Dee hear Tom say about her on TV?
22. Dee plans a surprise trip to Japan to meet Tom. As usual, Clarissa helps organize the trip, but who else helps her? Why is this surprising?
23. What does the expression (not in the book), "Happy ever after," mean? What happens in Japan?