



Book Club in a Bag

Discussion Questions

Bellevue Square by Michael Redhill

1. The author has said that *Bellevue Square* is a “fantasia on consciousness.” What do you think Redhill means?
2. Jean is an unreliable narrator. In part, this is because she is unaware of key things concerning the nature of her existence. How does she compare to other unreliable narrators you may have encountered in your reading?
3. The doppelganger theme has been employed by writers for various purposes. Fyodor Dostoevsky’s “The Double” is the story of a man’s more-interesting alter ego, and Josephine Tey’s *Brat Farrar* is about an imposter. Why do you think Redhill chose a doppelganger theme to explore in *Bellevue Square*?
4. Michael Redhill also writes under the name Inger Ash Wolfe, a character who appears in this book. Why do you think Redhill made his alter ego a character in this book?
5. *Bellevue Square* is concerned with authorship, storytelling, and point of view. How are these ideas expressed in the book, and how do they deepen your understanding of the novel?
6. If you could ask the author a question, what would you ask? Have you read other books by the same author? If so how does this book compare. If not, does this book inspire you to read others?
7. Readers and reviewers have commented that *Bellevue Square* is a layered novel with clues to its meaning scattered throughout. What clues did you find on your read? What do you think you might find if you read it again?
8. Is the ending satisfying? If so, why? If not, why not, and how would you change it?

The above questions were adapted from <https://www.penguinrandomhouse.ca/books/249783/bellevue-square-by-michael-redhill/9780385684859/reading-guide> to enhance your discussion of the book.

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