

Book Club Questions for Imperfecta by Robin Martinez Rice

1. The novel Imperfecta takes place in both New Mexico and California. What moral and emotional questions are raised when Perfecta and Isaac move to California?
2. Perfecta has relationships with many other women throughout the story - Isabelle, Avelina, Rose, Mary and even Karleen and Geri. How do these relationships impact Perfecta? Is she thwarted in her ability to take advantages of the resources around her?
3. One relationship which lasts, in spite of hardships, is that of Perfecta and Isaac. Why is this?
4. Who or what actually influences Perfecta in a positive way? What does it take for her to grow?
5. What kind of parent has Perfecta become? Why is it so hard for her to relate to her children?
6. Historically, women have lived through many hard times. The dust bowl, the stock market crash, the Great Depression, and wars. What do women do to survive these crisis? What becomes important when people don't have much or are in danger of losing what little they have? How are women dealing with their fears in current times?
7. Prejudice and poverty have always existed. What impacted Perfecta to make her have a closed mind? What similarities exist in current times that show us hidden prejudice?