

Good Luck

by Whitney Gaskell



About the Book

Lucy Parker wins the lottery on the worst day of her life. But can all the money in the world make up for a cheating boyfriend, a derailed career, and ending up in the middle of a media circus? Everyone wants a piece of Lucy?and all she wants is to escape from it all.

After life as she knows it falls apart, Lucy heads off to Palm Beach to hide out at the home of an old college friend. There, living in a tropical paradise of millionaires, Lucy acquires a new hair color, a new social set, and enough anonymity to put her notoriety behind her. Soon she's courted by two men who don't know her history. But just as Lucy begins to envision a new life for herself, the past catches up with her. Lucy would give up every penny to have her old life back?but just as she's ready to cash it all in, fate has one last surprise in store for her?one that will show her exactly what she's worth.

Discussion Guide

1. Despite the disasters she experienced at the beginning of the novel, what was good about Lucy's life before she won the lottery? What were the best and worst changes that took place after she deposited the check?
2. How did Lucy's parents influence her future? What explains the big difference in the way Lucy and Emma handle money?
3. Do you think Lucy would have stayed with Elliott if she hadn't caught him with Naomi? How did her breakup, and her newfound wealth, change the way she thought about men?
4. How did your opinion of Mal and Drew shift throughout the novel? How do they affect Lucy in different ways?

5. What sustains Maisie and Lucy's friendship? How does it compare to Hayden and Lucy's friendship? What gives Maisie the strength to turn down Lucy's money?
6. How does Lucy handle the secrecy of her new identity? Did she make the right choice in going underground? When are secrets helpful, and when are they harmful?
7. In the end, both Hayden and Emma realize how deeply they have hurt Lucy. What did it take for them to have a change of heart?
8. Discuss the novel's title. How much of the success portrayed in **Good Luck** comes from sheer luck? How much of it depends on good choices? Which one—luck or choice—plays the bigger part in having a happy life?
9. Several of the novel's characters, including Lucy's mother, want to spend their resources easing the suffering of others. What determines whether someone will do charitable things with wealth, versus those who use it to serve their appetites for power?
10. What makes Whitney Gaskell's heroines unique? How does **Good Luck**, along with the author's other novels, capture the tragicomic truth about the demands of modern womanhood?

Author Bio

Whitney Gaskell grew up in Syracuse, New York, and is a graduate of Tulane Law School. She worked for several years as a reluctant lawyer before writing her first novel, *PUSHING 30*. She lives in Florida with her husband and son, and is at work on her fourth novel.

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