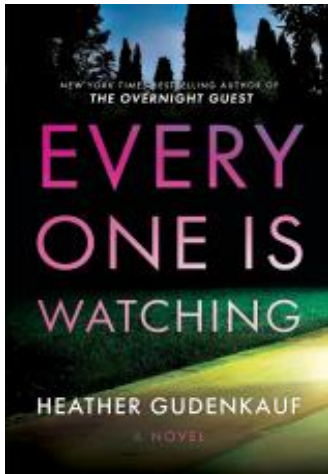


# Everyone Is Watching

by Heather Gudenkauf

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## About the Book

A mysterious high-stakes game proves life-threatening in this twisty thriller from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *THE OVERNIGHT GUEST*.

*The Best Friend. The Confidant. The Senator. The Boyfriend. The Executive.*

Five contestants have been chosen to compete for \$10 million on the game show "One Lucky Winner." The catch? None of them knows what (or who) to expect, and it will be live-streamed all over the world. Completely secluded in an estate in Northern California, with strict instructions not to leave the property and zero contact with the outside world, the competitors start to feel a little too isolated.

When long-kept secrets begin to rise to the surface, the contestants realize this is no longer just a reality show. Someone is out for blood. And the game can't end until the world knows who the contestants *really* are.

## Discussion Guide

1. The contestants will seemingly do just about anything for \$10,000,000. Which of the challenges would you be willing to try? Where would you draw the line?
2. Even when it's clear that "One Lucky Winner" is a dangerous, twisted game, the viewing audience can't get enough. Why are people so intrigued, even obsessed, with reality television?
3. Each of the characters in the book has done things that they aren't proud of. Do you think we are all defined by our past transgressions? Do we always carry our mistakes with us, or is it possible to move on from them?

4. How has EVERYONE IS WATCHING affected your understanding of what constitutes a villain and a hero? Who are the heroes, and who are the villains in the novel? Are there any victims?
5. About the contestants, Cat says, "A few clicks and the world will know exactly the truly awful people that you are. Finally, you are all going to get what you deserve." Do you think each of the contestants got what they deserved? Why or why not?
6. Which contestant were you rooting for? And as you got to know each of the characters and learned more about their backstories, did your opinions of them change? Why?
7. Once the dust settles, do you think any of the surviving contestants will keep in touch? Why or why not?
8. Fern decides to pursue a second season of "One Lucky Winner." After all that she experienced, why do you think she chose to do this?
9. The contestants in the novel are known by The Confidante, The Best Friend, The Executive, The Boyfriend and The Senator. Go around your book club and tell the group what your moniker would be and why.
10. Have you ever wanted to be on a reality show? Which one?

## Author Bio

Heather Gudenkauf is the Edgar Award-nominated, *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of 10 novels. Her debut novel, *THE WEIGHT OF SILENCE*, was an instant *New York Times* bestseller and remained on the list for 22 weeks. Gudenkauf's critically acclaimed novels have been published in over 20 countries and have been included in many Best Of lists, including Seven Thrillers to Read This Summer by the *New York Times*, the 10 Best Thrillers and Mysteries of 2017 by *The Washington Post*, Amazon Best Book of 2022, GoodReads Most Anticipated Mysteries of 2022.

Heather was born in Wagner, South Dakota, the youngest of six children. At one month of age, her family returned to the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota where her father was employed as a guidance counselor and her mother as a school nurse. At the age of three, her family moved to Iowa, where she grew up. Having been born with a profound unilateral hearing loss (there were many evenings when Heather and her father made a trip to the bus barn to look around the school bus for her hearing aids that she often conveniently would forget on the seat beside her). Heather tended to use books as a retreat, would climb into the toy box that her father's students from Rosebud made for the family with a pillow, blanket and flashlight, close the lid and escape the world around her. Heather became a voracious reader and the seed of becoming a writer was planted.

Heather lives in Iowa with her family and a very spoiled German Shorthaired Pointer named Lolo. In her free time, Heather enjoys spending time with her family, reading, swimming and hiking. She is currently working on her next novel.

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