

TIGER DRIVE
a novel

Book Club and Reader Guidance

I've included multiple questions that range from light and fun to controversial. I hope the large selection for you to choose from is helpful. They aren't in a particular order.

If your book club has any questions, please contact me at teri@tericase.com. Schedules permitting, I'd be happy to join your group via Skype or Facetime.

Food suggestions for your event:

- *Steamed artichokes to dip in mayonnaise*
- *Pineapple and ham pizza*

Book Club Questions	
1	Have you cleared a shelf in your house for faith, hope, and opportunity yet? If so, where is it in your house? Why that shelf or room?
2	Carrie has to write an essay about her parents' books and the their collective themes. Which books on your bookshelf are keepers? Why? What "theme" might someone assume from your collection?
3	Do you know what your parents' favorite books are, and if so why do/did they favor them?
4	Carrie has a secret crush on That Guy. Who was your first crush? What happened?
5	Carrie is determined to escape the life in which she was raised. What do you think drives her to succeed or to be different than her family?
6	Carrie feels responsible for her younger siblings but not her older siblings. If you have siblings, how do you feel toward them, or what was your role in your family?
7	Janice is inspired by Patsy Cline, and WJ is inspired by Popeye. Do you have an artist or character who inspires you? Why?
8	Janice plans to leave her children with Harry for one year and follow her dreams. Do think this is selfish?
9	<p>What was your dream as a young woman or man before you got married or entered a long-term relationship?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you could do it all over again, what would you do the same, what would you do differently?

10	<p>What's your dream today, small or large? Or what change do you need to make in your life to be happier?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you had to identify one action you could consistently take for 15 minutes each day for the next four weeks that will move you closer to your dream or a change, what would it be? Think simple. Something you can commit to.
11	<p>Harry believes his plan will make things easier for his family. Do you think he was right?</p>
12	<p>Harry and Janice grew up in a time where counseling and coaching were non-existent (but hospitalization, some medication, and shock therapy were options). People didn't talk as much about their troubles or the things that happened to them. Even in 1989—when this story takes place—counseling was very different than it is today. How has society changed and how might the counseling resources available today have helped the Sloan family members?</p>
13	<p>Harry struggles with sobriety groups. What additional resources exist today that Harry might have benefited from?</p>
14	<p>How would the advancements in technology since 1989 have impacted this story and the characters' journeys?</p>
15	<p>Were you closer to your mother or father growing up? Why? Who are you closest to now?</p>
16	<p>Why do you suppose mother/daughter and father/son relationships can be filled with strife?</p>
17	<p>What are the pros and cons of parenting? Note: judgment free zone. We know you love your kids if you have them.</p>
18	<p>WJ gets a second chance in life. In what ways do you think he changed in the story, and do you think he can or will leave his past behind?</p>
19	<p>WJ is influenced by Popeye. What similarities do you see between the two characters?</p>
20	<p>The Sloan family is described as "white trash". Is it fair to categorize them that way? And is such a label physical, a mental state, or both?</p>
21	<p>Carrie's sister, Lisa, is obsessed with the movie <i>Urban Cowboy</i> (and WJ likes the movie a lot too). Carrie hates it because it reminds her of her family's dysfunction. What movie best reflects your childhood? Or what was a favorite movie in your family?</p>
22	<p>Did your family have secrets? Light or dark, share if you want to.</p>
23	<p>In the Sloan family, other than WJ and Lisa (so far), Carrie's older siblings have disappeared into their own lives. The author has nine siblings and some have disappeared for twenty years at a time. How has your family changed from childhood to adulthood? If you have siblings, how often do you connect?</p>
24	<p>Carrie is encouraged by her teacher, Mr. Hill. Who was your most influential teacher and why?</p>

25	Carrie is desperate for “normalcy”. Janice argues her life is normal. What does being normal mean? What is normalcy?
26	Carrie believes her problems are “. . . all relative. Literally.” Does your family cause you problems, and if so, what are they?
27	Carrie keeps lists as a roadmap to differentiate herself from her family. What other benefits and rewards might she be getting from her list-keeping, consciously or subconsciously?
28	The Sloans seem to better express themselves with pen and paper. Why? Where might this have stemmed from? Do you best express yourself verbally or in writing?
29	<p>This story is riddled with foul language. Is it necessary to the authenticity of the story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What’s your favorite curse word? • What’s your least favorite curse word?
30	WJ and Joe are kicked out of the Navy due to their same sex attraction and given a discharge based on “disability”. How do you feel about this?
31	Has addiction impacted anyone you care about? In social conditions, should a person drink around a recovering alcoholic or not?
32	Harry’s rock bottom drove his final choices. People often say that once you hit bottom there’s only one way to go from there: <i>up</i> . Do you agree?
33	What role does faith in God play in this novel?
34	Which character do you worry about the most as they go into their new life? Why?
35	Janice promises to bring home artichokes as a “treat” if everyone does their chores and if they don’t bother her at the bar. What was a treat for your family?
36	Tattoos play an important role in the book. Janice and WJ both have tattoos that speak to them. Carrie shuns tattoos. Do you have a tattoo? What is its significance? Does it still suit you or would you like to get it removed?
37	You’ve read the book. Which cover did you choose and was it the right one? What images would have made a better cover?