

## Reading Group Guide

### *After the Fall*

1. Do you think that Laura made a good adjustment from surgeon to pharmaceutical executive? Do you think she realized the complexity of the drug approval process and that the data could be manipulated by an individual person at the FDA? When do you think she first suspected this?
2. Addie represents many women students who come to study in the U.S. and while here make major scientific contributions. How well do you think she dealt with multicultural differences? How did you think she'd react to the escalating demands that she return to Iraq?
3. Jake is a man in love. Did you feel any sympathy for him as he becomes more desperate to prevent Addie from leaving the country? As a psychopath, he has no moral compass, but he has been able to live a "normal" life. How can you detect someone like him—the psychopath-next-door? How vulnerable are we?
4. Did Addie seem aware of Jake's extreme obsession for her? Did he frighten her? Or was she more frightened by her Iraqi connections such that Jake seemed "safe"?
5. Laura and Tim have had a long-distance relationship for a long time, and there are a lot of skeletons in Laura's closet. How do you think she handled telling her children about one of these long-buried secrets? Telling Tim about what happened in Detroit all those years ago?
6. Did Addie's legacy make a statement that her allegiance was with her new life in America? Not back in Iraq where she'd be forced to work on weapons of mass destruction?