

Questions for discussion

Chapter 15: The chase

1. Do you only chase what you see?

I knew ugly girls that became beautiful. There have been many changes in my high school friends. How we start is not how we finish. People change and grow. It would be tough to expect someone to be exactly what you want.

“I know a girl who looked like a boy when she was 15. She had no body so to speak. Toady she is a budding woman. A stoner in high school is now a lawyer. You can never really tell who people are early on. We need to give them a chance to shine.” Chapter 15, p, 4

2. Believe in the chase of dreams. Yet, live while you wait.

Just live life. Trust the process. People come and go. Sometimes the right person is standing right in front of you. You just need time to see them more clearly.

“It’s really about chasing while not chasing. It’s a mindset. Believe in the process. A life being patient is a life called: the now but not yet. Practice living and chasing life. When a good relationship does come along, you’ll be ready to share “you” with them.” Chapter 15, p, 8

Chapter 16: The swamp

1. Do you live in a relationship swamp?

Relationships are not that bad. Yet, we spend a certain amount of time wading through people. Who can you love or trust? I find were too lax on bad relationships. I think we drown in the relationship swamp directly because were not picky.

“At times, I have wondered why I’m sitting in the sewage that other people have created. Surely, I’m not the cause of the swamp, are I? We have all dumped something into the relationship swamp. Who have I lied too? Be honest, we have all lied to save face.” Chapter 16, p, 2

2. Do you find your relationships honest?

It takes time to see people clearly. They say that people don’t reveal their true selves for at least three months. A courting period is important. It takes time to see the real person.

“People are just plain weird half the time. They want relationships, friends, and love, but it’s usually on their terms. Meaning we need to endure, tolerate, and comprise with their insecurities, baggage, and crud. So, the swamp becomes a dance or act. I fear most of the time it’s fake. What do people really reveal?” Chapter 16, p, 7

Chapter 17: Mask

1. What masks have surprised you?

I have been surprised by the masks some people have. They fooled me. For years I thought I knew me. After my divorce I clearly did not know anything about me. We all try on a mask. Sometimes we will ignore the ones on other people too.

“I can see God taking a perfect soul and placing it into the heart of an innocent child. Within weeks, people begin hammering on their self-esteem. Baggage is gained. A mask is forged.” Chapter 17, p, 1

2. People do hide a piece of themselves.

What are you willing to hide in a group? Do they get the real you? I find that instead, we are ashamed or afraid to be the real you. Hence, the mask.

“Are we willing to let our masks spoil the party? The truth will set us free. The lies will kill us eventually. Far too many marriages have bit the dust just because they hid in a panic room. We need to shed the masks and start doing relationships better than we ever have before.” Chapter 17, p, 9