



#### NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

"I agree with the American author Edmund Wilson's view that, 'No two persons ever read the same book.' I'd like to further that assertion by adding, 'and each person is correct.' I've posed these Book Club Questions relating to the novel to open a broad conversation, with heartfelt encouragement for everyone in your group to explore and express his or her own worldview. Thank you for reading Radio Head."

Rebecca Laclair

[www.RadioHeadBook.com](http://www.RadioHeadBook.com)

# BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

RADIO HEAD, a novel

## Book Club Questions

*Please explore these questions as a group, when everyone has completed reading the novel. Questions may be discussed in any order.*

### Shelby's gift of hearing

We're all a little "crazy." Does Shelby suffer from delusions as a result of a lifetime of abuse and neglect? Do you believe she has schizophrenia? Or is her special ability to hear music real?

### Zac's jealousy and narcissism

Zac's jealousy warps his opportunity to have a meaningful friendship with Stanford. What steps does Stanford take to rectify this problem? Zac believes he loves Shelby. So why does he reject her? Do you believe he and Shelby could work toward a reunion? What must Zac overcome in order to have a healthy relationship with Stanford, Shelby, or any romantic partner?

### Post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and addiction

Why do you think Shelby's mother Darlene engages in drinking and drug use? Is it too late for Darlene to heal her relationship with Shelby? Do you think Darlene should be brought to justice for aiding in her husband Boyd's suicide? What is your reaction to how Shelby's father handled his post-traumatic stress disorder after returning from his last tour of duty? Ashtynn has been gravely harmed by the adults in her life. Do you feel she should be brought to justice for her actions? What are your thoughts about her relationship with Elliott Rachman? Several famous rock guitarists have abused heroin. Do you think there is a connection between narcotics abuse and creativity? Shelby has been "at-risk" her entire life. How well do you feel she is coping?

### Roland and Emily

Roland and Emily went to Dartmouth together, and share a similar goal of helping others with mental health disorders. How are their approaches to helping others similar or different? How can they grow closer as a couple? Do you feel they managed their patients cases well? Why or why not? What could they have done differently?

### What is "good" music?

Shelby listened to others on the inside. It helped her understand who they are. Stanford believed Zac's voice and style were the exact sound needed to record the music he'd written. Zac thinks songs should be tell his story in a way that the listener would want to be his friend. Ashtynn believes hit music is a studied formula, and has a higher chance of success when written by trained professionals. What do you think makes one song better or more enjoyable than another? What is the definition of good music? What is the definition of bad, or distasteful music?

### Music appreciation

Have you ever heard more in a song than the musician performed? Something beyond the landscape of the song itself? What song was it? Were there particular circumstances that provoked this feeling? What makes a song memorable?

### Marking the musical milestones

List the songs that mark or delineate meaningful events in your life. You might include songs shared within a romantic relationship, a special event, time, or place. Anything that moved you. (You're welcome to email your list to [WriterRLaclair@gmail.com](mailto:WriterRLaclair@gmail.com) if you'd like to be included on the Fan Playlist page on [www.RadioHeadBook.com](http://www.RadioHeadBook.com).)