

'Across Great Divides: true stories of life at Sydney Cove'

by Susan Boyer

Book Club Discussion Questions

- Judging from its title and cover, what did you expect the book to be about?
- The title suggests the book contains factual stories. How do we know they are true?
- The book incorporates the lives of convicts. Are the stories believable?
- The book incorporates the lives of Aborigines. Are the stories believable?
- Which character do you like most? Why?
- Which character do you like least? Why?
- If you could interview any one character in the book, who would that be?
What questions would you ask?
- Some characters made choices that had moral implications.
Would you have made the same decision? Why? Why not?
- How significant is landscape in the book?
- How would the book have been different if it had taken place in a different country?
- How would the book have been different if it had taken place in a different era?
- What are some of the book's themes? How important were they?
- How are the book's characters symbolically significant?
- Choose a scene from the book that stands out for you. Explain why it stands out.
- Did the book end the way you expected?
- Would you recommend this book to other readers?