

# MARRIAGE & MASTI

## Book Club Questions

Marriage and Masti is a re-imagination of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night. What themes are similar and what themes are different from the source text?

Veera has been in love with her best friend since they met. However, she chooses not to tell him her feelings, and he eventually gets engaged to another woman. Do you think that based on Veera's character, and her relationship with Deepak, she should've told him how she felt before she ran away with her sister?

Veera has set a boundary with her father after he let her go from the family business. How do boundaries play an important part in the story, and do you think Veera was right in establishing boundaries with family regardless of cultural obligations?

There is a big reveal! Was Mrs. W.S. Gupta's true identity surprising to you? Did the reveal clarify some of the reasons why Deepak chose to marry in the first place?

This story includes an ensemble cast with a lot of friends. Veera's relationship with her girl friends is especially important to her growth arc. How was her relationship with them, or her non-relationship, believable and true to the way we grow apart in real life?

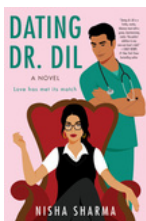
The aunties have a much smaller role in this book than they have in both Dating Dr. Dil and in Tastes Like Shakkar. However, they highlight an important cultural role that groups of women often play. To single women, they are an antagonist, but to married women, they are an accepted and supported part of a community. Do you think this is toxic or critical to the growth and development of married women in society?

Both Deepak and Veera come from money. Both have also made quite a bit of money on their own as well. How does privilege make their love story easier? Or how does privilege create additional expectations that mirror traditional or cultural expectations?

In Dating Dr. Dil, we see the culture of dating with Punjabi Indians in America. In Tastes Like Shakkar, we see the culture of weddings. In Marriage and Masti, we are finally witnessing the culture of marriage for Punjabi Indians. First, is the marriage between Deepak and Veera 'real' in your view? And second, what makes a 'real' relationship?

Veera and Sana are incredible close, but Sana often feels Veera's pain and wants to react or lash out at the people who have hurt her. This puts Veera in a difficult situation. Do you think Sana was trying to protect her sister all along, or was she trying to protect herself, too?

Veera and Deepak know each other so well before their love story can even begin. What moments of intimacy felt romantic even though these characters weren't exactly 'discovering' each other for the first time?



OUT: AUGUST 27, 2024  
WWW.NISHA-SHARMA.COM

  @NISHAWRITES

