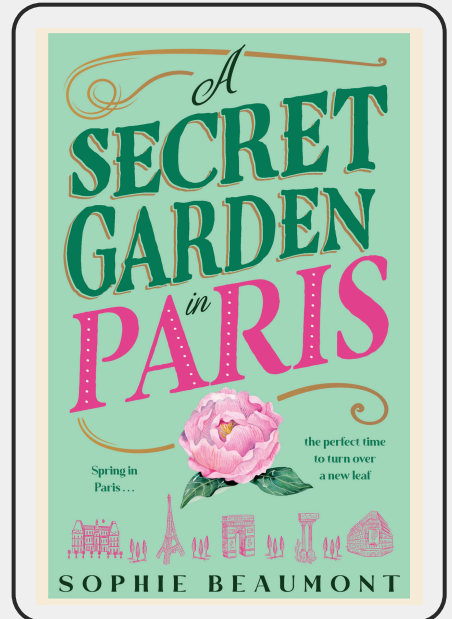


# READING GROUP NOTES

A SECRET GARDEN  
IN PARIS  
SOPHIE BEAUMONT

Spring in Paris ... the perfect time to turn over a new leaf

From the author of 'The Paris Cooking School' comes a captivating story of loss and love, romance and revelations – and the pleasures of a secret Paris garden.



November 2024

Paperback: \$34.99 | 9781761153617 | 320pp | TPB

Ebook: \$16.99 | 9781761153624

How many of the gardens of Paris depicted or mentioned in the novel had you heard of before reading the book? Have you visited any of them? And if so, which is your favourite?

Monsieur Leroux, the red squirrel, appears at various points in the narrative. What do you think he represents?

Mattie tells Emma that in France it's said that 'everyone has their secret garden'. She explains what it might mean– but can you think of other meanings? What is your own image of a 'secret garden' in the psychological sense?

Why do you think Corinne never told Emma about Marc-Antoine and his mother?

Charlotte went to Paris in order to escape a difficult atmosphere at home. Do you think that was a wise decision? Is there anything else she could have done?

Charlotte has made a home in London but she is still very Parisian, with a foot in both worlds. What differences between the two cultures– English and French– do you think she might have found challenging to navigate (aside from language)?

## NEW BEGINNINGS. ROMANCE. PARIS.

Tom found it impossible to be open with Charlotte or the rest of his family about his unhappiness at work. He says to Charlotte that it was 'bloody stupid macho pride'. But do you think that's the full story?

Arielle has an extraordinary understanding of flowers, but there is no indication she has had any special training for that. How do you think her talent might have developed?

The relationship between Arielle and her sister, Pauline, is very close: how does the author depict it? And who do you think is the stronger sister?

Daniel's talk about the medieval manuscript marks a turning point in the way he and Arielle interact. Why do you think that is?

Grief and consolation are important themes in A Secret Garden in Paris. How are these explored within the novel?