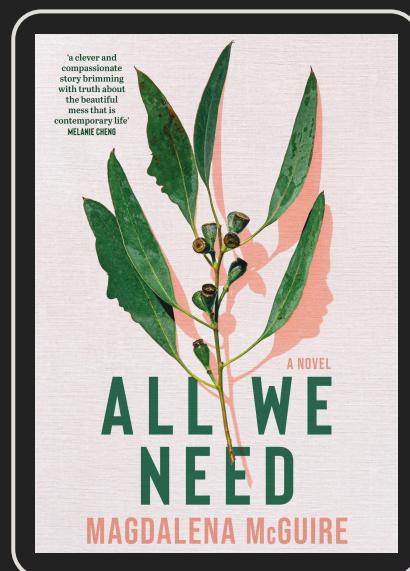


READING GROUP NOTES

ALL WE NEED
MAGDALENA MCGUIRE

All We Need is whip-smart fiction that shines a light on how we live today. It holds a mirror to contemporary parenting, economic insecurity, sibling rivalry, the environment, gender divides and the joy of dress-ups. Acutely observed, funny and tender, this tell-your-friends-about-it book will keep you gripped until the last page.



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The story begins during a fateful camping trip when Candace's baby, Pia, goes missing from her tent. How did you feel as you read all of that unfold? What did you expect the outcome to be?

What were your first impressions of Sapphie? What impact did you think she would have on Candace's life? How did you think Sapphie would affect the friendship between Candace and Alexia?

After the camping trip, we follow Candace, Alexia and Sapphie into their lives in the city. Through the women, we see three different ways of grappling with work and motherhood. Which storyline were you most engaged with? Which one felt the most relatable?

Clothes and dress-ups play a big part in this book. We have Max's necklace, Candace's vintage dresses, Alexia's tailored shirts and pants, and Sapphie's bright tights and t-shirts. Why do you think the author chose to spend time describing people's clothes? Did the outfits help you build a mental picture of people?

Let's talk about Alexia's friendship with Finn, the philosophy tutor. Why do you think she felt so close to Finn? How did you see this friendship evolving?

What were your thoughts when you learned about the messages that Sapphie was getting? Did you relate to her approach? What would you have done in the same situation?

CONTEMPORARY. MOTHERS. CONNECTION.

How did you respond to the women's different attitudes to nature and environmentalism? Which attitude most closely aligns with your own?

We learn that Sapphie has inherited her grandfather's house - much to the anger of her brothers. What is your opinion about a grandparent or parent gifting a house to one child and not their siblings? Can this be justified or do you think it inevitably causes problems?

Towards the end of the book, Candace finds out information that sheds light on the messages that Sapphie has received. How did you feel about Candace's reluctance to share this information with Sapphie? How would you have reacted in her place?

What are your thoughts on the ending? What do you think happens next for Candace, Alexia and Sapphie?