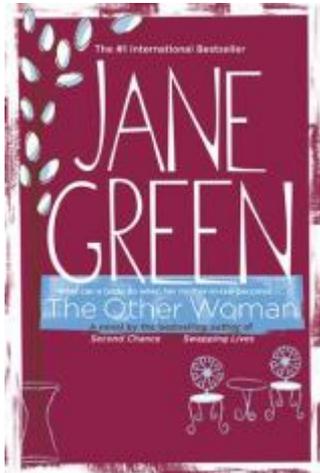


## The Other Woman

by Jane Green

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### About the Book

Eric Jerome Dickey strides boldly over the minefield that is modern marriage. The central couple's biggest challenge is timing: He works days; she works nights. Instead of growing together, they're rapidly drifting apart, coexisting on stolen phone calls from work, punctuated by occasional bedroom encounters that leave them both feeling even emptier and more alone. When she finds out about his affair-and starts her own-the delicate fabric of their marriage is torn irrevocably asunder. Or is it? In Dickey's expert hands, what begins as a seemingly unforgivable betrayal segues into the sexy and searing story of a man and a woman at a pivotal turning point in their relationship. Only time will tell whether they'll let it all go...or can hold on to the love that drew them together in the first place.

### Discussion Guide

1. The "other woman" in Ellie's marriage is her mother-in-law, Linda, but there are many types of "other" women in her life as well. Discuss conflicts of loyalty in the novel in terms of family, marriage and friendship.
2. Use one relationship triangle (e.g., Lisa, Trish, and Ellie) to demonstrate how relationships evolve through the course of the book. Can you draw any parallels between this and your own life? Which character do you most identify with? Why?
3. Ellie initially idealizes Dan's family as a substitute for her childhood experiences. How do her expectations of marriage and family affect her happiness? Did you ever have similar feelings?
4. How does Ellie's identity shift as she moves from single woman to wife to mother? How does her choice of friends reflect these changes? What does she learn?
5. We see Ellie's relationship with Linda through Ellie's perspective. How do you think Linda would describe the events of the book? Were there moments when you sympathized with Linda instead of Ellie?
6. What is your opinion of Dan's behavior toward the conflicts between his mother and his wife? Did your feelings for Dan's father change from the beginning of the novel to the end?
7. Compare the portrayal of marriage and family in this novel with another book or film you have enjoyed recently. What similarities or differences do you notice in the depiction of the relationships? Is Dan and Ellie's experience typical of marriage today?
8. There is a large cast of supporting characters in **The Other Woman**. Were there any that you wished played a more prominent role in the novel? If so, briefly describe how you would have included them in the

plot. If not, explain which character you could have eliminated completely.

9. Take turns describing Ellie physically and psychologically. If the novel were a movie, whom would you cast in the starring roles?

#### Author Bio

A former journalist in the UK and a graduate of the International Culinary Center in New York, Jane Green has written 18 novels (most recently FALLING, SUMMER SECRETS, SAVING GRACE, TEMPTING FATE and FAMILY PICTURES), 17 of them *New York Times* bestsellers. Her novels are published in over 25 languages, and she has more than 10 million books in print worldwide.

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