



## 1022 Evergreen Place, Reading Guide

*By: Debbie Macomber*

1. What role do you think the World War Two letters played in bringing Mack and Mary Jo together? Would you be as fascinated by letters from this era as they are? Why—or why not?
2. How much of an impediment is David Rhodes to the relationship between Mack and Mary Jo? Do you understand and/or sympathize with her reasons for not pursuing legal means to hold David accountable (at least financially) for his child? What would you advise her—or any young woman in this situation—to do?
3. Tanni Bliss's relationship with Shaw, established in 8 Sandpiper Way, changed her in a positive manner, giving her the confidence and closeness she needed. Now Shaw is in art school, and seems to be drifting away. Do you understand her fears of losing him—and the way she deals with the changes she perceives in him? Why do you think she reacts so negatively to Kristen? Have you ever discovered you've made a mistake in your assumptions about someone? What happened when you discovered you'd incorrectly prejudged that person?
4. When Grace's beloved dog dies, the teenagers, Kristen and Tanni, both sympathize. If you're an animal-lover and pet-owner, chances are you, too, have lost a pet. How did you cope? How does the grief you might feel in this situation compare to the grief you'd feel at losing a human member of your family?
5. What do you think of the way Rachel and Bruce Peyton are handling Jolene? Does Bruce simply not recognize Jolene's poor behavior or does he not want to see it? What advice would you give this couple?
6. Do you feel Charlotte is starting to slip a bit? Does she strike you as confused or forgetful—and if so, would you consider that a natural sign of aging? What do you feel her friends and family should do?

7. Why do you think Gloria doesn't want Chad to know about the pregnancy? In your view, does she have a right to keep their baby a secret? Are her reasons strong enough?

8. Is Roy's decision to go to Chad with the information about Gloria's pregnancy an unwarranted invasion of privacy? Is he interfering in the lives of two adults? Are his reasons strong enough?

9. Do you believe Will Jefferson has come far enough in his quest to reinvent himself and live a better life? How would you describe his relationship with Shirley? Do you find his actions toward her somewhat manipulative? If so, in what way?

10. When Rachel leaves Bruce at the end of the story, do you understand why she does it? Do you empathize with her feelings? Agree with her decision? What friend do you think she's going to stay with? Do you have any suggestions as to how this situation could be resolved? Any predictions as to what will happen?