

Book club questions for *Reunions* by David Adams Cleveland

Use these discussion questions to guide your next book club meeting.

Jacob is introduced as the undergraduate staff manager of Princeton's 40th class reunion; he is a classmate of Gini's daughter and the son of Gini's classmate Jake —do you find it believable that Jacob could know so much about the lives of the teammates?

Why do the Carpaccio paintings feature so prominently in the book? What part does the image of St Augustine play in the meaning of the book?

Why did Gini and Jake, who were in a long-term college romance, break up? Gini and Jack were supposed to meet in Venice; why do you think she did not show up?

Were the other 3 women ever in love with Jake and if so, how did that manifest itself? How did Jake's relationships with the other 3 teammates impact his relationship with Gini?

Did the fiercely competitive nature of the teammates' rivalry to be the number 1 player during their college years remain embedded in the four women's characters — if so, how is that displayed in their post college lives and their relationships over the reunion weekend?

Why was Jake so focused on Apolonia's potentially scandalous affair at the university?

How did Bianca's brief affair with Jake in Venice impact her life?

In the decades following their graduation, how did the lives of the 4 roommates and Jake unfold and intersect?

How does Jacob explain his father's general absence from his life and his lack of engagement with his former classmates? Why is it relevant that their 40th reunion is occurring in the first quarter of the 21st c?

What best explains Gini's romantic interlude on the Saturday night of reunions?