

## **BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS**

### **“BRIGHT LIES” BY AA ABBOTT**

SPOILER ALERT: these questions are best discussed after the book has been read.

- The book is divided into short chapters, with Emily’s point of view in first person present tense, and Jack’s POV in third person present tense. How did you feel about that?
- When did you realise who Emily was visiting in prison?
- Looking back, what red flags can you spot at Emily and David’s first meeting?
- At what point did you realise that David was a predator? His behaviour is classic – isolating his victim, normalising alcohol and drug use – but subtle. It is difficult for the police to deal with a clever predator, because they must not ask leading questions and victims are often reluctant to testify.
- Did you suspect David and Andy were the same person before the showdown in Chapter 50?
- What do you think of Rachel’s behaviour? Was there anything she could or should have done differently?
- We never find out what happened to Jack during the winter before he goes to Birmingham. What do you think he may have done?
- Were you sympathetic towards Emily while she was being groomed, when she ran away, or not at all?

- Jack tries hard to keep a lid on his anger until Chapter 50, when he realises David will “keep crushing lives until the day he dies.” Was he right to take the law into his own hands?
- What do you feel the future holds for Jack and Emily?
- Are there characters in the book you would like to know more about? What do you imagine happened to them?
- How well do you know Bath, Bristol and Birmingham? Do you feel you know them better now?
- Is there an underlying message in the story?