

**Questions for discussion:**

1. What did you think of the author's use of dual settings in *The Deception of the Emerald Ring*, modern-day London and 19th-century England and Ireland?
2. What was your opinion of Geoffrey Pinchingdale at the beginning of the book? How did it change as the novel progressed?
3. How are Eloise Kelly and Letty Alsworthy's stories similar? Does Eloise learn from Letty's experiences in any way?
4. "Every instinct he possessed screamed that Letty Alsworthy was lying," (page 25). What evidence led Geoff to his conclusion that Letty was trying to dupe him into marriage? Even though he felt this way, why did he stay with her?
5. "Geoff dragged his mind away from his own difficulties and onto England's," (page 45). What explains Geoff's vocation as a spy? Do you think he made a good one?
6. After Geoff treats her badly at their wedding reception, Letty still follows him as he abruptly leaves for Ireland. Why did she follow him?
7. When Jane's relationship with Lord Vaughn is revealed, did it come as a surprise? Did you believe he was on England's side? Do you think that Vaughn killed The Marquise?
8. Discuss the growing romances between Geoff and Letty and Eloise and Colin Selwick. Are there any parallels between the two relationships?
9. In Chapter Eight, Letty muses to herself, "There's nothing so attractive as a blank slate," (page 83). Do you agree with this sentiment?
10. What did you think of Geoff's cousin, Captain Jasper Pinchingdale? Did you consider him a buffoon at first, or a more sinister character? Did you think he would actually try to harm Letty?
11. Are there any similarities between Geoff and Eloise? Between Colin and Letty? If so, what are they?
12. What are some examples of characters' deception of one another? How does deception serve a purpose in the novel?
13. Almost all of the characters in the novel seem to be hiding something, whether it's their true identities, their genders, their real feelings, or something else. Discuss some examples of how different kinds of "disguises" are used throughout the book.
14. Of the many colorful characters in the book, which one or ones stood out for you? Why?
15. What does the book's title mean?