

GARDEN INTRIGUE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was your first impression of Emma Delagardie? How did your feelings toward her change throughout the story?
2. How are Emma and Eloise alike? How are they different? Do you think any of these differences arise from the social norms of their periods, and if so, which ones?
3. Discuss the differences in social etiquette in Paris and New York. Why does Emma feel more of an affinity to Paris? Why does she feel like she can't return home?
4. How is the theme of loss addressed in *The Garden Intrigue*?
5. "He donned rhyme like armor, keeping her at bay. She could have told him he didn't need to. She flirted without thinking. That was armor, too." Discuss how various characters in *The Garden Intrigue* used spectacle and armor—and the forms their armor took—to conceal their true selves from society.
6. Did you know much about Napoleon's court at Malmaison prior to reading *The Garden Intrigue*? What surprised you most?
7. Discuss the presence of past lovers in *The Garden Intrigue*. How did the characters behave themselves when they encountered one another? Would exes of today behave in a similar manner?
8. Compare Augustus Whittlesby's relationships with Jane and Emma. What affected his choice in the end?
9. How might the course of history have changed if Napoleon had liked Robert Fulton's invention?
10. "Women seldom fare well in printed history." Do you feel this is true? If so (or not), who are some examples (counterexamples)?
11. Discuss the future of Colin and Eloise's relationship. Do you think they will be able to stay together after Eloise leaves? Why or why not?

12. Is there really a Treasure of Berar? Do you think Colin and Eloise will find it before Jeremy does?