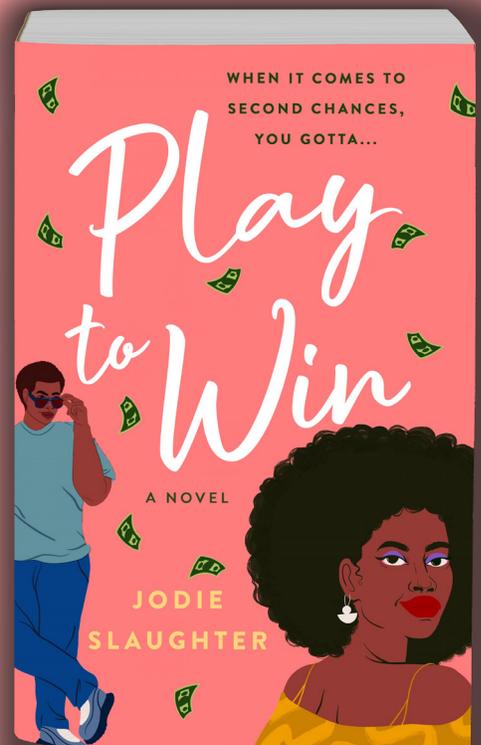


Play to Win

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Miri's world is turned upside down when she finds out she won the Mega Millions and she's faced with the one question everyone shares: If you won the lottery, what would you do with the money? Would you have done the same thing that Miri did with her money and found someone to help manage it?
2. After much contemplation, Miri decides to get herself something with the money she was rewarded, and she ends up adopting an abandoned puppy named Ginger. Why do you think Miri chose the abandoned dog over any other dog to adopt? How does she relate to her?
3. The dual perspective allows readers to understand both Miri's and Leo's sides of the ups and downs of their relationship. How would one perspective change the story? Would you have more empathy for one character over the other?
4. Money plays a significant factor throughout Miri's life. From growing up with just enough for her and her mom to her husband leaving her because he felt he was unable to provide for her properly, it's no surprise Miri thinks that money brings more problems, as she says in chapter 3. Discuss the significance of the idea that money brings more problems as it relates to Miri's relationship with Leo. Why is it so important that Leo provides for Miri in some way? How is he supporting her by rebuilding his aunt's house?
5. The second-chance romance trope is a significant component to the story as well as Miri and Leo's relationship. Discuss its significance and how other romance tropes play a role in the story. Additionally, how does the concept of second chance play a role for Leo as he tries to amend his relationship with his family and friends?



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6. Discuss the theme of forgiveness and why it was such a big hurdle for Miri to overcome, specifically in reference to her feelings for Leo. How and why does Miri handle the pain she felt when Leo left and allow him to break through her walls again in the end?
 7. Both Miri and Leo have someone who supports them and is there for them to lean on when they're down, such as Miri's group of friends and Leo's best friend and sister. In chapter 17, Jade warns Leo of Miri's feelings for him and warns him not to break her heart again and in chapter 14, Miri's mother also supports Miri by telling Leo how she feels about him. Do you think they were both overstepping and not allowing Miri to fight her own battles? Why or why not?
 8. In chapter 15, Miri explains that she considered Thea to be a big sister, but when Leo left, their relationship completely dissolved and Miri actively avoided her, instead focusing on her own well-being. How are Miri and Thea able to reconnect in chapter 24 and why was it essential for them to resolve their differences and rekindle their relationship? Discuss further how Miri and Thea rekindling their relationship changes Miri's personal growth and overall perspectives on life and love.
 9. Leo realizes that despite Miri possibly not taking him back, he wants to be closer to the family he ran away from all those years ago. Even though Miri hasn't spoken to Leo's family much since he left, his sister is adamant to mend their relationship. Discuss the importance of blood and chosen families throughout the story.
 10. Miri and Leo have a strong physical attraction to each other that they both acknowledge but are not yet ready to accept. Discuss the significance of physical intimacy in Miri and Leo's relationship. Did their attraction to each other hinder or improve their relationship?
 11. Until he sees Miri again for the first time, Leo believes she has called him because she wants to reconcile and become a happy couple again. However, Miri wants the opposite. Later on, in chapter 22, Leo acknowledges that he does still love her. How do Leo's feelings evolve throughout the book? If he had told Miri his feelings when they'd first seen each other, would they have gotten back together sooner?
 12. In chapter 23, Miri's mom reveals her past love and how the relationship ended. How does this revelation change Miri's mindset about her love for Leo?