

He Said/She Said – Discussion guide

The path of every eclipse can be predicted from now until the end of time...

Kit and Laura, young and in love, pledge to travel the globe and see as many eclipse as possible. They have no idea of the darkness that will follow.

At a festival in Cornwall, in the hushed moments after the first eclipse they share, Laura interrupts a man and a woman. She knows she saw something terrible. But the man denies it. Later, in a panic, Laura tells a little white lie – which changes four lives irreparably. When the victim turns up on their doorstep, the truth seems to vanish ever further into shadow. As gratitude spills into dangerous obsession, Kit and Laura simply have to run.

But they can't hide forever. With another eclipse on the horizon, the past is closing in on them again. Telling Kit the truth will cost Laura her marriage. But keeping the secret could cost them both their lives.



- *He Said/She Said* is a story about what we believe and who we trust – whether that is other people or our own memories. As you read the book, did you find your opinions changing about what really happened, and who was telling the truth? In what ways?
- Did the dual narrative work for you? Did you find your feelings about Laura and Kit changing and in what ways? Did you find yourself trusting one of them over the other? Why?
- What do you think about what Laura did at the trial? Was it excusable?
- Were you surprised by the ending? If not, why not? Did you think anyone was more to blame for the mistakes and misunderstandings that drive the story? What would you have done if you were in Laura's shoes – or Kit's?
- What do you think will happen next – and what do you want to happen next?
- There have been many rape trials where the evidence has fallen down to whose version of events you believe. Has the novel given you a different perspective on such cases? What do you think of the current trial system, and the way the media reports on these stories?
- How did you think the eclipse motif affected the structure of the novel, and the progress of the story? What do you think it added to the themes of the book?



**THE
READING
AGENCY**