



Final Betrayal

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Proposed Author Interview Questions and Answers

1. Your main character Catherine Calabretta, sleeps with Stephen Forsster, a sexual connoisseur, for what she calls "Sex-Ed 301", and to experience really good sex for the first time in her life. What do you think about the idea of sleeping with someone for reasons other than being in love?

Answer: Author will talk about some of the many reasons people have sex (such as love, strictly physical release, power/control, sport, sexual obsession, etc.); and about some of the traditional and non-traditional differences in the way men and women view the sexual experience.

2. It turns out that Stephen Forsster is involved in child prostitution. Why did you include that in the story? What did you hope to accomplish by doing so?

Answer: Author will talk about some reasons of including in fiction topics that "make us think"; about writing about things that make people (author and readers) "uncomfortable"; and about unintended consequences of decisions people make and actions people take. (For example, how Catherine had to come to terms with all of the ramifications of her "innocuous little fling.") In terms of the craft of writing fiction, the author can discuss the development of multi-dimensional "bad guy" characters.

3. The whole premise of the book is betrayal. Do you think all human beings are capable of betrayal?

Answer: Author will discuss how many of us, who consider ourselves of unimpeachable integrity, can find ourselves engaged in betrayal; and the elaborate (or simple) justification/rationalization processes we may concoct.

4. It is so easy to obtain information about people today. In your book, you show how people who started as hackers are now working in the computer industry, and often using their knowledge for good. However, what can people do to protect their privacy? As your main character says, "Everything about you is recorded somewhere. Someone unknown to you has access to that information."

Answer: Author will talk about various issues related to privacy, including: 1) defining “privacy” – what we have a right to expect; 2) how notions of “privacy” have changed (and continue to change) – especially with the onslaught of technological development; 3) the double-sided coin of privacy/security; 4) what the future holds.

5. There is also the issue of people videotaping others having sex. We see that in the media with Paris Hilton, Pamela Anderson, Colin Farrell, and other celebrities being taped while having sex, and those tapes being sold over the Internet. Your main character is a public figure, and didn't know she was being videotaped. While her tapes aren't being sold over the Internet, it is still a huge invasion of privacy. Will there soon come a time when we will have to ask our lover, are you videotaping me?

Answer: Author will discuss the expanding list of things one should consider before engaging in an intimate encounter – especially with someone who is fairly unknown.

6. You have your readers look at the issue of "Are women over 40 still desirable?" In Hollywood, they are calling 40 the new thirty. What do you think makes a woman desirable, no matter what her age?

Answer: Author will discuss “desirability” issues from the perspective of both women and