



Book Group Discussion Questions

1. What is the theme of *Osaka Heat*?
2. What purpose does the setting of the book serve?
3. The narrative changes from first person (Ginger's POV) to third person. What does that do to the telling of the story? What purpose does it serve to organize the book in this way? How would the story be different if it were told in Ginger's voice alone? In only the third-person narrator's voice?
4. Who do you imagine the third-person narrator to be? How does this narrator change during the book?
5. How does Ginger change over the course of the story? How does her vision for herself change?
6. What does Ginger mean to Akira? To Sakiko? To Hiro?
7. How would you describe Ginger's relationship with her daughter? How does Ginger's relationship to her daughter change over the course of the book?
8. Why does Ginger think the unreliable narrator is the best thing about Ishiguro's and Greene's books? (See page 15.) What do you think about having an unreliable narrator tell you a story? How can you tell if a narrator is reliable?
9. What part do literary, artistic, and musical references play in *Osaka Heat*?
10. By the end of *Osaka Heat*, Ginger has faced certain issues in her relationship with Akira. What choices does she make? What choices would you have made?