

# The Wedding People: facilitator notes

BiblioFiend | Version 1.0 | 15 October 2026

Whole-book spoilers. Facilitation notes, not an answer key.

## Opening lens

The Wedding People brings Phoebe into a wedding setting where other people expect the week to follow a planned script. Her presence puts the roles around the event under pressure. The discussion can look at the difference between a public celebration and what a person is able to say within it.

## Evidence method

Choose a social role such as guest, bride or stranger and follow the moments when it stops being a useful description. Compare Phoebe's position with Lila's without assuming either has a complete view of the other. Questions about suicide and loss are optional, with no personal story required.

| Minutes | Task                     | Book-specific starting point                                                                                                             |
|---------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0-5     | Scope and pass option    | What did the setting make you expect people to perform for one another?                                                                  |
| 5-15    | Opening reaction         | Which early exchange made the stranger role useful or uncomfortable for Phoebe?                                                          |
| 15-30   | People and relationships | How does a conversation between Phoebe and Lila move beyond their assigned roles? Identify what each person has to risk saying.          |
| 30-45   | Narrative choices        | What does a hotel or temporary setting allow that a character's own home might not? Consider time limits and the possibility of leaving. |
| 45-55   | The ending               | What remains unresolved about Phoebe's future? Why might the book leave room around that uncertainty?                                    |

| Minutes | Task                   | Book-specific starting point                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 55-60   | One remaining question | End with one unplanned conversation that changes a role. Keep the response grounded in what the characters choose to say, rather than a general claim that an event can fix a life. |

## Group 1 chapter cue

Bring an arrival chapter where expectations are set.

## Group 2 chapter cue

Locate a conversation between Phoebe and Lila that changes a role.

## Group 3 chapter cue

Choose a late scene where a planned future and a lived choice part ways.

## Closing direction

End with one unplanned conversation that changes a role. Keep the response grounded in what the characters choose to say, rather than a general claim that an event can fix a life.

## Edition and scope note

Suicide and grief are part of the novel's scope. The pack is for literary conversation and promises no personal outcome. Participants may discuss the hotel setting or narrative humor instead of a sensitive theme.

## Source

<https://us.macmillan.com/books/9781250899576/theweddingpeople/> | The Wedding People | Alison Espach | ISBN 9781250899576