

The Wedding People: participant questions

BiblioFiend | Version 1.0 | 15 October 2026

Whole-book spoilers. Optional prompts for adult discussion. Pass on any item without explaining why.

Book: The Wedding People by Alison Espach. Reference ISBN 9781250899576. Your edition / chapter notes:

Before full-book spoilers

What did the setting make you expect people to perform for one another? | Which early exchange made the stranger role useful or uncomfortable for Phoebe?

Q01. What can Phoebe say as an outsider that a familiar guest might be unable to say? What is the cost of that freedom?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q02. How does the wedding's schedule make a private crisis more visible or more easy to miss? Keep the setting active in your answer.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q03. Where does Lila seek control through a detail that seems small to someone else? What larger uncertainty might the scene permit readers to infer?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q04. How does a conversation between Phoebe and Lila move beyond their assigned roles? Identify what each person has to risk saying.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q05. What does the novel distinguish between being included in an event and belonging with another person? Use two encounters to test the distinction.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q06. Where does humor coexist with pain without making the pain a punch line? Discuss the point of view that makes the balance possible.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q07. How do ideas about a successful marriage shape the way characters explain their lives? Which account becomes harder to sustain?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q08. What does a hotel or temporary setting allow that a character's own home might not? Consider time limits and the possibility of leaving.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q09. Which unplanned act matters more than a carefully staged one? Explain how the narrative gives the act weight.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q10. Does the ending offer a new script or a greater willingness to live without one? Defend your reading with a choice rather than a mood.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q11. What remains unresolved about Phoebe's future? Why might the book leave room around that uncertainty?

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Q12. How does the title change when wedding people are seen as people outside the event? Choose a late detail that makes the change concrete.

Chapter or letter cue in my edition: _____ Notes: _____

Source record: <https://us.macmillan.com/books/9781250899576/theweddingpeople/>. Original prompts; no affiliate links. Version 1.0, 15 October 2026.