

Discussion Questions for *Alice: Alice Roosevelt Longworth, from White House Princess to Washington Power Broker* by Stacy A. Cordery

Some of these questions were taken or adapted from the questions at http://www.litlovers.com/guide_alice.html.

1. Did you like the book? If so, what was your favorite part of the book? If not, why not?
2. Did you learn anything? If so, what information in the book was new to you?
Did anything you learned about this time in American history surprise you?
3. Alice isn't always a likable figure, but she speaks her mind honestly. Do you admire her?
Do you consider her forthright, courageous, or simply offensive?
4. To what extent do you think her father's neglect contributed to Alice's unconventional approach to life?
5. Though Alice was never elected, the author paints her a politician in her own right.
Do you agree with her?
6. Alice may well have been the smartest of all the Roosevelt children. Had she lived in another era, do you think she would have run for office?
7. Any comments on Alice's personal life – her marriage to Nicholas Longworth, subsequent affair and child by Senator William Borah, the role she played in FDR's life, encouraging his affair with Lucy Mercy Rutherford.
8. Did any thing that happened or was said in the book stick with you? Did the book trigger any emotions as you were reading it?
9. Which people did you find yourself most drawn to? For whom did you feel sympathy or antipathy? Did your feelings toward various friends and family members change over the course of the narrative?
10. Imagine Alice herself reading this book. What might she think of the way the author shaped her story?
11. Did Alice inspire you in any way? Did she disappoint you? Did she surprise you? How?
12. Are there any questions you would like to ask?