Without Proof

Redemption's Edge
Book Three

Expanded Anniversary Edition

Prologue and Chapter 1

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Discussion Questions

1. Amy's petite stature and the need to be independent since her mother's death have taught her to stand up for herself and rely on her own judgment. Do you think that made it harder for her to believe Aunt Bay's and Troy's reassurances of Michael's sanity?

2. Aunt Bay is outspoken, yet she's careful not to say things she might regret. Is it harder for you to speak your mind or to restrain your words?

3. As the point of view character, Amy's perceptions make her an unreliable narrator at times. Did you feel like Aunt Bay, that you'd like to make her see clearly, or were you content to watch her learn for herself?

4. Why do you think Aunt Bay and Troy wouldn't tell Michael or Amy how the other felt? Would this be wise in real life?

5. As a child, Amy internalized and accepted the judgments about her. This left her overly sensitive to her birth circumstances, even when those around her saw that it wasn't a barrier. How easy is it for us to believe the lies that diminish our worth or exclude us from relationships where we could blossom? What difference could it make to ask Jesus how He sees us?

6. Once Amy discovers that God loves her, she starts fighting the "voices" of childhood with what she's learning about herself as His child. Have you ever used this sort of strategy to fight the battle in your mind?

7. Aunt Bay, Michael and Troy are all people of prayer. What part does prayer play in your life?

8. Aunt Bay tells Amy, "I suspect God wishes He could knock the pair of you upside the head and shake some sense loose. But He saves the dramatics for key points in history." What are some of the more subtle ways God opens our eyes to what He wants us to see or to do?

9. What do you think of Gilles' desperate attempt to bargain with God for Amy's life?

10. Can you relate to Amy's childhood fantasies about her father? What do you think about her struggle to forgive him for rejecting her as an adult? And what do you think about her forgiving Emilie at the end?

11. One type of fear keeps Amy silent about her birth. Fear of another kind keeps her and Michael from revealing their hearts to each other. It's easy to see this in other people, but what whispers of fear might be keeping us from living transparently with those around us?

12. What do you think about Aunt Bay's words that "We should never blame God for what happens. But when you know He could have prevented something, it can be a struggle to accept that He didn't."

13. Aunt Bay has built a relationship with Safia's family. As she shows practical love to her neighbours and prays for them, she'll see opportunities to share her faith. What questions do you think the events in this novel might raise for Safia? Do you think this young mom and her family may yet discover the truth about Jesus?

14. If you've read the first two Redemption's Edge books, how did you feel about seeing Ruth, Tony, Carol, Joey and Chance again? What do you think of Harry's decision to go public with his conversion story?

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Janet Sketchley is an award-winning Atlantic Canadian writer who likes her fiction with a splash of mystery or adventure and a dash of Christianity. Why leave faith out of our stories if it's part of our lives?

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