

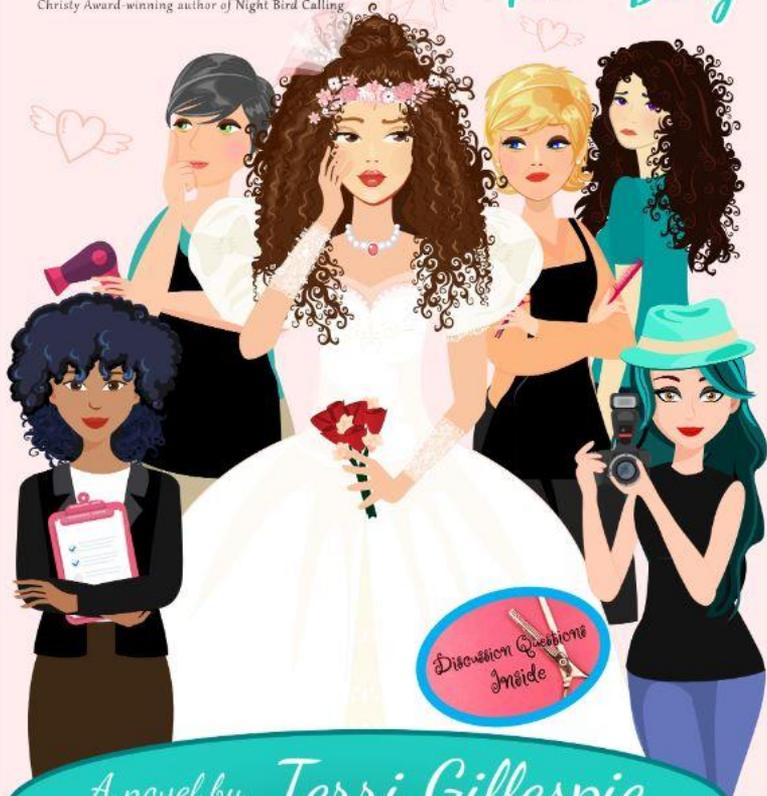
Really Bad

The Hair
Mavens
Book Three

“Engaging, vibrant, sassy, sincere—”

Cathy Gohlke,
Christy Award-winning author of *Night Bird Calling*

Hair Day



Discussion Questions
Inside

A novel by Terri Gillespie



Really Bad Hair Day
Sometimes what's really bad is really good.

Questions for Discussion (Spoiler Alert)

1. The driving theme of *The Hair Mavens' Series* is unity. Yeshua (Hebrew for Jesus) prayed for unity (John 17). He prayed for unity “so that the world may know that You sent Me and loved them as You loved Me.” Unity in Jesus brings love and change and promotes the Good News.
 - a. Since one of the most beautiful and unlikely examples of unity was Ruth and Naomi in the Bible, I wanted a story of an unlikely group of women who unite and bring love, change, and promote the Good News in their workplace and then in the community.
 - b. Discuss why Ruth and Naomi were unlikely candidates for unity.
 - c. (Possible topics: Mother-in-law/Daughter-in-law; Jewish and Gentile—Moabite; Ruth leaving behind her country and culture; the

- significance of Ruth being part of the Jewish legacy (Ruth 4:13-21)
- d. Discuss why the Hair Mavens were an unlikely group of women to be united.
2. Of all the reasons readers have requested this final book in the series, it is to see Shira and Jesse finally get married. Shira's first dilemma is finding a dress. What did you think of Shira's dress adventures?
 3. Shira struggled with wanting her own fantasy wedding and almost missed the amazing blessings God had for her. Discuss that journey.
 4. I knew how I would end this book when I wrote the first chapter of Book 1—*She Does Good Hair*—the Jewish wedding of Shira and Jesse. What was your favorite part of the wedding? Have you ever attended a Jewish wedding?
 5. There are many Biblical symbolisms to the Jewish wedding. Can you spot some of these in Shira and Jesse's wedding?
 6. Katya is drawn back to her past when Yuri contacts her again. Why do you think she was

tempted to leave behind her life in Gladstone and return to New York?

7. What did you think of Katya's rescue?
 - a. Katya's rescue was loosely based on my late-sister-in-law's rescue by a homeless person. Her kidnapper had trapped her inside a trunk. A homeless man happened to see her fingers waving through the back window (this happened before the safety features were installed in car trunks). He was able to break in and save her. He walked her to a bus station where she was able to call the police.

8. Were you surprised with Beulah's quandary—two men in love with her?
 - a. When I wrote book one, I never intended Beulah to find another love after Wil. But several readers saw the love potential between Beulah and Sam, Shira's father. Discuss why you did or didn't see the budding love.
 - b. As I developed this love story over books 2 and 3, I realized the significance of a man and woman who pray together. That intimate moments of prayer can spark romantic

emotions. This is worth discussion for prayer groups.

9. Harriet really came into her own in this book. I love her journey. Discuss how the once bitter, snarky, barren beautician became a compassionate, loving, maternal, woman of God—yet still retain that feistiness.
10. Our Miss Linda. Many readers said they didn't understand that Linda's rigid attitude came from a broken heart. They only saw her as prideful.
 - a. What did you think of Miss Linda initially? How about now?
 - b. I loved giving Linda and Greg a big surprise—or surprises. How do you think the Lamberts will be different parents with their new babies, Simon and Sarah?
11. Cari—our honorary Maven. Sweet Cari represented many of us who live an obedient life yet challenges and heartbreak keep coming. I learned a lot from Cari—how to gracefully go through the trials of great heartache and grief. What did you learn?
12. Daye. My beta readers want a book about young Daye. Of all the mavens, she did not

complete her faith journey in this book.
Perhaps I'll do that.

- a. Discuss your thoughts on Daye and what the next leg of her journey might entail.
- b. What I love about Daye is that she has a broader perspective of the world. The symbolism of her viewing the world through a lens helped the Mavens see past their own perceptions and expand their reach into the community. What are some other symbolisms of Daye's use of her photography?

13. In Book 2—*CUT IT OUT*, the Hair Mavens began helping other women by learning how to spot domestic violence and point these victims toward resources for help. Does your hairdresser/or are you aware of resources that can help victims of domestic violence?¹

¹ The Hotline can be accessed via the nationwide number

1-800-799-SAFE(7233) or TTY 1-800-787-3224 or (206) 518-

9361 (Video Phone Only for Deaf Callers). The Hotline provides

service referrals to agencies in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam

and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Persons can also contact the

Hotline through an email request from the [Hotline website](#) Visit

14. In Book 3—*Really Bad Hair Day*, the Mavens venture farther into the community by volunteering at a homeless shelter. What are your thoughts about their activities?
- Has this inspired you to take your talents into your community? Discuss ways your Book Club could make a difference, such a food kitchen, shelters, donations' centers.
 - What are ways you can help? Check your city's directory for institutions in your area.
 - Or just find ways to serve in your congregation and community².
15. Every homeless person has a story. I wanted to give Angel a face readers could think about. What did you think of Angel's story?
16. Who is your favorite character? Why?

[disclaimer page](#) . Services are provided without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, or disability (including deaf and hard of hearing). Assistance is available in English and Spanish with access to more than 170 languages through telephonic interpreter services.

² <https://www.justserve.org>

17. What was your favorite scene? Why?

18. What is your takeaway from *Really Bad Hair Day*? Why?

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