



THE VERSIONS OF US

BY LAURA BARNETT

1. Of the three alternative realities, in which do you think Jim and Eva were happiest?
2. How did you find reading the book in three simultaneous realities? Do you think you could read the book by reading one reality at a time, all the way through?
3. What point do you think the author is trying to make with these three different realities?
4. Why do you think Sophie was so angry with Jim in version Three?
5. Do you believe there is 'the one'? Or is it all about timing? (Ted/ David/ Carl)
6. Both Jim and Eva knew they wanted to be writers/ painters - how did their lives affect these passions/ careers?
7. Jim and Eva had strong connections with their parents throughout their lives. How did this affect the different realities?

8. In the different versions there are a difference in number of kids, what are the relationships with the children like?

9. *"He should never have tried to go back in time, to the moment when he and Eva had their entire lives before them. He has gone against the natural law of things: the law that says you get one chance at happiness, with one person, and if it falls apart, you do not get that chance again."* (p.326) Discuss!

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