



THE DUKE NEXT DOOR

Celeste Bradley, St. Martin's Press 2008

- 1.** Is there anyone in your life that you judge by their appearance as the three main characters are judged by each other in THE DUKE NEXT DOOR?
- 2.** Like Meggie, Deirdre was faced with a stepmother as a child. At what point do you think Deirdre choose to forge a different parenting path than her stepmother Tessa? What in a person's character allows them to go against the parenting training they have received?
- 3.** What in Calder's personality makeup might make the business and machinery of industry more appealing than that of running an estate?
- 4.** According to Deirdre it is very difficult to be perceived as a person when all people see is your beauty. What are your experiences with this issue?
- 5.** Is Deirdre at fault for looking for attention outside her marriage when Calder is harsh with her?
- 6.** Stickley and Wolfe are amusing villains, but young Baskin is merely the victim of his own mental illness. How does that affect Deirdre's responsibility for the part she plays in his death?
- 7.** When Calder gives in to necessity, he emerges as a bold, morally flexible bandit. Was that man hiding inside all along? Who do you think is hiding inside you? (I wish I had someone sleek and elegant inside me. I always show up at booksignings looking like I dressed in the dark.)
- 8.** Deirdre believes in the end that all she needs to turn the man of her dreams into the love of her life is a little faith. Do you think people can change?(Okay, I'm really asking if you think MEN can change.)