

Study Guide for
A Beautiful Death: Keeping the Promise of Love
by Cheryl Eckl

Here are some suggested questions for discussion that can be used in book groups or for individual study.

- What comes to mind for you when you hear the phrase “a beautiful death?”
- Has reading the book changed your mind or confirmed your opinion?
- In addition to being an inspirational story about the end of life, *A Beautiful Death* can be read from many perspectives: love story, personal growth journey, spiritual pilgrimage. What perspective(s) spoke most strongly to you?
- There are some strong visual images that recur throughout the book. What did you notice?
- *A Beautiful Death* is based on Cheryl Eckl’s journals. What is your experience with journal writing?
- How did reading the book affect your thoughts about or practice of journaling?
- What is the value (if any) in keeping a journal, especially in times of great personal challenge?
- Are there similarities between Stephen and Cheryl’s experience and your own life?
- Were those similarities or lack of them important to you as you read the book?
- Did you think about other people who had gone through the same thing?
- What did you want to do as a result of reading the book?
- Has reading *A Beautiful Death* prepared you to deal with the end of life in a different way than you might have done? If so, how?
- Did the book answer questions you had about the end of life?
- Did it raise more questions or concerns?
- What was your overall experience of reading the book?

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