

- 1 Is the novel *Shoeless Joe* just a fantasy or is it a relevant story for life?
- 2 Did the blending of fact and fiction in the novel send you on any fact-checking searches and if so, what did you learn?
- 3 Is the novel most about baseball, dreams, magic, courage, or death? Why?
- 4 Nostalgia is a strong emotion in this novel. What are some examples?
- 5 Does the main character sharing the same name as the author's father add to or detract from the story for you?
- 6 Why is Ray's relationship with his father so important?
- 7 Why do Ray's brother-in-law and his business partner try to buy the farm? Why is this so significant?
- 8 Do you think the depiction of Iowa and Iowans is accurate?
- 9 Why does W.P. Kinsella pick J.D. Salinger over other authors? Why must Ray ease Salinger's pain?
- 10 *Shoeless Joe* is quite different from the film "Field of Dreams." Is there anything from the book that you miss in the movie?
- 11 Do you believe the real Shoeless Joe Jackson should be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame? What are arguments for or against his induction?