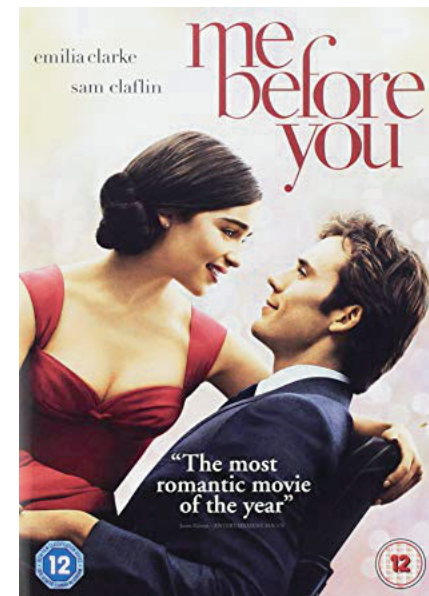


- Discuss Louisa's own secret ties to the castle. Would most girls in her situation have blamed themselves? Should Treena have behaved differently in the aftermath?
- What did you make of the way Lou's mother, Josie, judges Lou's decisions regarding Will. Is Josie's reaction fair?
  - Before his accident, Will was a philanderer and a corporate raider who would probably never have given Louisa a second look. Why is it that people are so often unable to see what's truly important until they've experienced loss?
  - As a reader, one of the first things you do is learn about the Clark family. How real do you feel it is? Do you believe or even connect with any of the family members?
  - Louisa lacks any care taking job experience. Were you at all shocked that the Trayner's were willing to hire Louisa? Why do you feel they did?
  - It is revealed in limited detail that when Louisa was younger she had been sexually assaulted by a group of visiting boys at the Castle. How did this experience effect her physically and emotionally. When Louisa revealed this to Will how did he react?
  - Jojo provides much detail of Will's day to day life as a parapalegic, in some cases painfully honest views of the suffering he goes through. What is the intent of these raw scenes? What does these views of Will do to Louisa overtime.
  - One of my favorite parts of the book is when Will joins the Clark family at their home for dinner. What were some of the interesting interactions during that dinner?
  - Throughout the book there are different interaction of family members, both in Louisa and Will's family homes. What is the significance's of learning so much about these two main characters families' lives?
  - On the subject of families, did you see any similarities with the two families or would you consider them polar opposites?
  - The later half of the book we find out that Will plans to take his life after the six month period is up. Did you anticipate his plan before it was revealed in the book? If so, what were the clues that this was the path he intended to take? If not, how did you react to this news?
  - What does the title Me Before You mean? Could there be more than one meaning for this title?
  - If you haven't read the sequel After You, what do you think happens to Louisa after the book ends? What about the Clarks and the Traynors?

# Club de lectura en anglès

## BIBLIOTECA CENTRAL XAVIER AMORÓS



Me before You by  
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## BOOK SUMMARY

Lou Clark knows lots of things.

She knows how many footsteps there are between the bus stop and home. She knows she likes working in The Buttered Bun tea shop and she knows she might not love her boyfriend Patrick.

What Lou doesn't know is she's about to lose her job or that knowing what's coming is what keeps her sane.

Will Traynor knows his motorcycle accident took away his desire to live. He knows everything feels very small and rather joyless now and he knows exactly how he's going to put a stop to that.

What Will doesn't know is that Lou is about to burst into his world in a riot of colour. And neither of them knows they're going to change the other for all time.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jojo Moyes was raised in London. She writes for the Daily Telegraph, Daily Mail, Red and Woman & Home. She's married to Charles Arthur, technology editor of The Guardian. They live with their three children on a farm in Essex, England.

### READING GROUP QUESTIONS

- When Lou meets Will for the first time he is less than welcoming to her, even playing a mean trick on her to put her on edge. What were your first impressions of both Will and Lou? Did your view of them change over the course of the book and to what extent?

- Will and Lou have a profound effect on each other's lives. How do their lives change after they meet compared with how they were before? In what ways do they change each other?

When Lou first learns of Will's intentions to go to Dignitas to end his life, she is shocked that his mother, Camilla, could be prepared to play such a role in her son's death and thinks of her as heartless: a view shared by other characters, such as Georgina and Lou's mother. How do you feel about Camilla as a character? Do you think this view of her is justified?

- Both Will and Lou have experienced a terrible life altering moment – Will's accident and Lou's assault in the castle maze. How do their reactions to each of their experiences compare? In what ways are their reactions similar/different?

- As his nurse and friend, Nathan is also a big part of Will's life. How important is his role in the novel? How does he affect the dynamic between Will, Lou and Will's parents?

- Lou is very close to her family, despite her frequent squabbles with her sister Treena. How important are they in the decisions she makes, such as her decision to take the job with the Traynors and keep it – even when she discovers why she is only contracted for six months – and her decision to go to Switzerland to be with Will at the end?

- Will and Lou come from very different worlds. Will's was one of success, ambition and privilege before his accident, while Lou inhabits a modest, simple and unadventurous world, restricted to the boundaries of the small town she's lived in all of her life. Do you think they would have fallen for each other if they had met under different circumstances?

- Will's right to die, and Lou's determination to change his mind about exercising that right, is a theme that runs throughout the novel. How did you feel about Will's decision at the end? Was it what you expected? Do you think the novel should have ended differently?

- If you were Louisa, would you have quit working for the Traynors? If yes, at what point?

- Were you able to relate to the way Will felt after his accident? What about his outlook on life did you find most difficult to understand or accept?

- Discuss the meaning of the novel's title. To whom do the "me" and "you" refer?

- Louisa often finds Mrs. Traynor cold and judgmental. Is there an appropriate way to behave in Mrs. Traynor's situation?

What is your opinion of Mr. Traynor? Did it change after you read his side of the story?

- Why is Louisa able to reach Will when so many others could not?

- Were you as surprised as Lou to learn of Will's plans?

- Compare Louisa's relationship with Treena to Will's relationship with Georgina. Do siblings know one another any better simply because they are related?

- Would Patrick have asked Louisa to move in with him if he hadn't felt threatened by Will? If Louisa had never accepted her job with the Traynors, where would her relationship with Patrick have gone?