FREE SAMPLE

The Ten Perfect Guests Book Club Kit

One night on Victor D'Arcangelo's island -
40 questions, a suspect board,
and a party plan

Free sample - two real pages from the kit:
How to Use This Kit (kit p. 2) and First Impressions -
Questions 1-10 (kit p. 3). The full kit is 12 pages: 40
original discussion questions, a guest-list tracker and
suspect board, a timeline tracker, the twist-fairness
test, snacks and an island playlist.

For readers who have finished the book.
Print at 100% on US Letter or A4.

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How To Use This Kit

Read this page first

Ten Perfect Guests (2026) is Jonathan Santlofer's closed-circle island mystery. When celebrated and difficult artist **Victor D'Arcangelo** dies without warning, ten people from his life are summoned to a weekend memorial on a remote Caribbean island — and the terms are blunt: come, or lose your share of his estate. They board a yacht in Fort Lauderdale and arrive at a luxurious hotel with **no staff, no phone signal, and no way off** . The ten are Victor's ex-wife, his current wife, his estranged brother, his son, a gallerist, a collector, a dealer, a former critic, a pharmaceutical heiress and her musician-husband — and there is also a young woman who seems to have no connection to anyone. Someone on that island knows their secrets, and not all of them will leave. The book is built in the line of Agatha Christie's **And Then There Were None** , with revenge running underneath the weekend.

Read the book, then pick 8–12 questions from the four sections — two or three from each. The sections follow the shape of the evening: first impressions, the guests, the mystery, the ending. You do not need all 40; the kit gives you choice so every club night feels different.

The suspect board on page 7 is the heart of the night. Fill in the guest list before the meeting, and let everyone move their suspect as the discussion goes on. The twist-fairness test on page 9 is for the last fifteen minutes: it asks whether the ending played fair, and it is the liveliest argument a mystery club can have. Snacks and playlist are on page 10. Keep the food simple and the playlist in the background — the conversation is the main event.

Your meeting in 90 minutes

0–10 min: Welcome, snacks, and the one-line verdict — each member sums the book up in one sentence, no spoilers beyond the ending you all know.

10–25 min: First impressions — the island, the invitations, the ten guests (Q1–Q10).

25–55 min: Deep questions — the guests, the secrets, the mystery (Q11–Q30).

55–75 min: Spoilers allowed — the ending and the twist-fairness test (Q31–Q40, then the test on page 9).

75–90 min: Rating ballot, favourite-line share, and the vote for the next book (page 10).

A note on spoilers

This kit is written for readers who have finished the book. The questions assume you know the ending. Do not hand it out before the meeting.

What this kit is not

Every question in this kit is original Pagelyra material, written for this kit. No passage from the book is quoted anywhere in it. Where a question asks about a guest or a scene, the details are yours to fill in from your own reading.

1. First Impressions — The Party

Ten questions — pick two or three

1. Ten guests, one gathering. What does the number ten do to this story — would it work with five guests, or does it need all ten?
2. Before anything goes wrong, the party itself is the setting. What mood does the gathering have at the start — celebration, obligation, or something else?
3. The invitations are Victor's terms: attend the memorial, or lose your share of his estate. What does that guest list itself tell you about Victor — and about what he thought of these ten people — before anyone speaks?
4. Which guest did you trust first, and why? Was it something they said, something they did, or just the way they were described?
5. Every guest at a party like this has a reason to be there and a reason to leave early. Which guest's reason felt most honest to you?
6. The story gives you ten people to watch. How did you keep track of them — did you make a list, take notes, or just let the strongest personalities stick?
7. A perfect guest is a performance. Which guest is performing the hardest, and what do you think they are hiding behind the performance?
8. The gathering is a closed circle: the same ten people on one island, no way off. How does that closed circle change the way you read every conversation?
9. What is the first thing that feels wrong to you — the first crack in the perfect evening? Did you notice it on the first read or only in hindsight?
10. If you had been invited as the eleventh guest, what would you have noticed first about this group?