

Book Club Questions for *Noble Vision*

A novel by Gen LaGreca

These questions address issues that unfold in the story and are intended to be read after you finish the novel.

Passion, medicine, and politics collide in this romantic suspense drama of a doctor and patient's struggle for freedom to choose in today's changing world of medicine. *Noble Vision* is the story of a gifted surgeon with a new cure, a beautiful dancer who urgently needs it, and a state health system that has other priorities.

1. Is neurosurgeon David Lang able to use his own judgment and conscience in treating his patient Nicole Hudson? If not, then who is overriding the doctor? How is this a cause of great frustration for the surgeon and anxiety for the patient?
2. Is injured dancer Nicole Hudson able to give her informed consent to a new treatment? If not, then who is deciding for her? How will the decision about her care impact her life?
3. Why do costly new medical innovations pose a problem for New York's state health system, CareFree? Why does CareFree reject Dr. Lang's new treatment?
4. What is at the heart of the conflict between David and his wife, Dr. Marie Lang? How does Marie get ahead in her career while David jeopardizes his? How is David, who breaks the rules and gets in trouble with the CareFree administrators, pose a professional embarrassment to Marie? What does the conflict between David and Marie say about the kind of doctor who gets rewarded and the kind who gets punished in the CareFree system?
5. David Lang and Nicole Hudson are attracted to each other. What draws a man and woman from two totally different worlds together? What character traits do they share?
6. What does Nicole's childhood and background tell us about how the disadvantaged can rise and achieve great things?
7. The head of CareFree claims that his program is humane and noble, while Dr. Lang charges that CareFree is corrupt and cruel to him and his patient. Why does the head of CareFree continue to defend his program? What is he really after?
8. How does the governor believe his bid for reelection is best served—by allowing a costly new medical procedure that's needed only by a few, or by making inexpensive benefits, such as free eyeglasses, available to all citizens? How does his political motivations shift the focus of medicine and compromise new cures and treatments?

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