

BOOK CLUB FOR ADULTS

JANUARY 2026 BOOK:

The Battle of the Bookshops by Poppy Alexander



January

Book: *The Battle of the Bookshops* by Poppy Alexander

1. What did you think of the book?
2. Which was the most interesting scene(s), in your opinion?
3. Were there any characters that you felt, you can relate to in any way?
4. What were your expectations before reading *The Battle of the Bookshops*?
5. Jules returns from London to help her great-aunt's bookshop. How do you feel about her decision to leave her career and move back home?
6. The rivalry between the Capelthorne and Montbeau families is central to the story. What role does that rivalry play in shaping the characters and their actions?
7. The setting of the seaside town of Portneath and the old bookshop are described in a nostalgic, cozy way. How did the setting influence your enjoyment of the novel? Did it feel real?
8. The bookish details – the dust, the shelves, the history of the shop – are quite prominent. What value do you think those details add? Did you feel a connection to the world of books and bookshops?
9. If you were in Jules's shoes: what would you do to try to save the bookshop?
10. The novel is at its heart a romance, but it also deals with family, legacy, and business. Which of these themes resonated most with you, and why?

11. What did you think of the ending? Were you satisfied with how things wrapped up?

12. The title “The Battle of the Bookshops” suggests competition, contrast, maybe even war. Did the story deliver on that idea in the way you expected? Why or why not?

Answers