

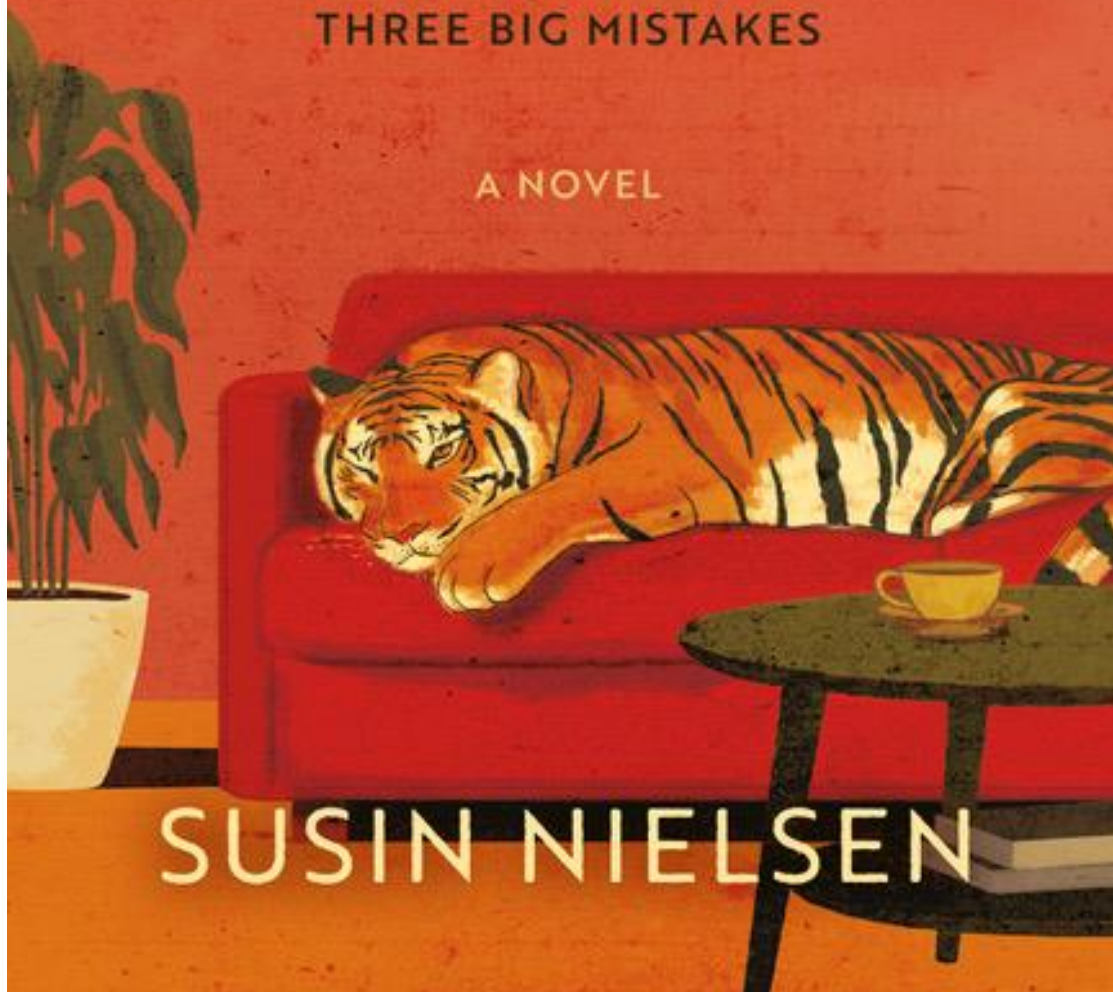
"A SHARP, EXCEPTIONALLY FUNNY NOVEL THAT FEELS LIKE AN
AFFIRMATION FOR THE SHORT-TEMPERED AMONG US . . . A TRIUMPH."

—Susan Juby, author of *The Woelfeld Poultry Collective* and *Mindful of Murder*

SNAP

THREE GOOD PEOPLE
THREE BIG MISTAKES

A NOVEL



SUSIN NIELSEN

Snap Discussion Questions

1. Frances, Geraint and Parker all snap in very different ways early on in the novel. Have you ever snapped? Or come close? Or fantasized about it? What triggered you?
2. The author has said that the idea for the novel came shortly after she had an upsetting experience – she could quickly see the potential for humour in the re-telling. Have you ever had an upsetting experience that wound up becoming a funny story to tell friends? Has humour ever helped you through a hard time? Can you think of other examples where humour is used to make sense of negative events or issues?
3. What do you think the author is saying about anger in this novel? Is it ever a justified response? What about revenge?
4. Frances is a pretty judgmental person and does some questionable things, especially early on in the book. Why do you think the author wrote her this way? Were you able to have sympathy for her? Could you see any of yourself in her, or in Geraint or Parker?
5. Parker believes in the power of positive thinking, although it only gets her so far. What do you think the author is saying about logic, reason and hope? Or conversely, naiveness? Do you believe in the power of positive thinking?
6. One of the themes of the book is about finding community and friendship in unlikely places. Can you think of a friend you have who you met in unlikely circumstances – someone you never would have taken the time to get to know if ‘fate’ hadn’t thrown you together? Do you think virtual spaces can offer the same potential for community and friendship as live spaces? Why or why not?
7. Geraint’s relationship with his wife is quite lopsided. Have you ever been in a relationship that felt that way?

8. The author has said that she wanted to have a 'feel-good ending' to Parker's story even though in the real world it doesn't often happen that way – it gave the author a chance to have a happier outcome than she did with past events in her own life, and in the lives of many of her female friends. Have you ever experienced some version of Parker's story, and do you wish you could write a different ending?
9. Frances is dealing with an aging parent with Alzheimer's. While the book keeps the tone light, dealing with aging parents is often no laughing matter. What did this add to the story? How did it make you see Frances and her relationship with her ex-husband differently? Have you had your own experiences dealing with an aging parent?