

## Book Club Discussion Guide – Consequences

1. What is Grace's motivation throughout the story? What about Margaret?
2. Which character do you most relate to and why?
3. Do you see any irony in Grace's name? Or do you think it fits her?
4. How do you feel about Catherine McAuley from the brief glimpse you got of her in this book?
5. The story was purposefully titled *Consequences*. Discuss the consequences of each of the main characters' actions and how they affected the plot.
6. What do you think Catherine McAuley was thinking when she sent Margaret to the hotel overnight? What do you think was her motivation for not finding some small place in her own home to keep her?
7. Do you think that this one lapse in judgement should keep Catherine from being declared a saint in the Catholic Church or should the rest of her exemplary life outweigh that one mistake?
8. If you could change one thing in the story, what would it be?
9. What did you learn about life in 19<sup>th</sup> century Ireland from this story?
10. What other books/TV shows/movies have you seen that portray the dark side of being a domestic servant, either in the past or today?
11. Abuse of domestic workers (previously called servants) continues today because they have no protection under U.S. law. What is one thing you can do to help them?