

Discussion questions for One Troy Ounce

1. In the first chapter of One Troy Ounce, we learn that Sally was disappointed that she had given birth to a daughter rather than a son. Do you think women have a different relationship with their sons than their daughters? Why might Sally have preferred a boy?
2. Sally's parents abandoned her after she married Robert and they also refused to accept Anna. Discuss if their actions influenced Sally's decision to place her in foster care. How do you think Sally's parents would have reacted to meeting Anna as an adult?
3. After three years in the same foster family, Anna's foster parents didn't adopt her? How did that decision affect Anna?
4. Harry and Helen, Anna's adoptive parents, never discussed Anna's adoption with her but Isaac's parents were open from the beginning. Did the way each family handle the adoption influence how Anna or Isaac felt about finding their biological parents? How do adoptive parents feel about their children searching for biological parents?
5. Do you think there is any merit in not telling an adopted child he/she is adopted?
6. Sally, Anna's biological mother, lied to her husband, John, about both Anna and Isaac. Is it okay to conceal information about children given up for adoption from future spouses? Discuss.
7. Should Anna have tried harder to have a relationship with Isaac? Do you think she had regrets?
8. Despite the fact that Robert never reached out to Anna, she felt a connection to him. Why?
9. Robert and Lena pushed the envelope when they decided to mint two million Universaros. If they had continued to be financially successful, would they have remained married? Is money enough to hold a marriage together?
10. After Wade Valente was cleared by the FBI, he kept all the silver for himself. Should he have given anything to Isaac or Anna? Fern? Lena?