

Reading Group Discussion Guide
for
The Nurse's Dirty Secret

Warning: Here Be Potential Spoilers

Part One: General Questions

1. Is cyber sex(ual activity) with strangers ever potentially emotionally rewarding? Why or why not?
2. Having engaged in cyber sex(ual activity), should one assume or develop a heightened degree of trust or intimacy with one's (virtual) partner? Should this be tempered or influenced by the fact that this is a financially-motivated relationship probably based on implicit falsehoods?
3. How do you, personally, define deviant sexual behaviour? How accepting should one be of fantasies and desires which do not match one's own?
4. Rape fantasies are said to be relatively common among women. Why do you think this is? Might it represent an attempt to mentally justify otherwise straightforward dom/sub desires?

Part Two: The Cyber Sex Business

5. Ruby requests Max's credit-card number and expiration date, but neither his full name, address, or the card's CVV3 code. Estimate how high an instance of credit-card fraud the company she works for might see, and what merchant rates they are likely to pay for their credit-card processing.
6. A large percentage of cyber-sex(ual activity) businesses seem to be headquartered in eastern Europe. Given the rates of credit-card fraud you estimated in question 5, above, calculate what percentage of these businesses are likely to be engaged in organized money laundering for transnational criminal organizations.
7. Assuming that "talent" at a cyber-sex(ual activity) service receive between 20 and 30 percent of the net income from their performances, that Ruby makes an average of two such performances a night, four nights a week, and could make seven dollars an hour (before taxes and withholdings) being a shift supervisor at McDonald's, what are the odds she actually enjoys her job? What are the odds she's just really bad at math?

Part Three: Psychology

8. Based on Max's interactions with Ruby, describe your impression of his personality. If you had to pick a single word to describe Max, what would it be?
9. On a scale of one to ten, how honest overall do you think Ruby was about anything she wrote?
10. Describe Ruby's personality in three words or less.
11. What do you estimate the odds of Ruby's having ever been in an emotionally-satisfying romantic relationship are? What do you estimate the odds of her ever being in one in the future are?
12. The first outfit Ruby describes in response to "what are you wearing?" is (perhaps) surprisingly detailed. Does this represent some sort of wish-fulfillment on Ruby's part, or is she simply being good at her job, i.e. manipulative?

Part Four: Miscellanea

13. Is it actually possible to ejaculate on the ceiling, assuming reasonably normal architecture and physiology? Have you ever done so?
14. Were you aroused at any time during the reading of this story? Did, or do, you feel guilty about this? If so, why?
15. Did you post about this story on your Twitter or Facebook page? Did you vote it up on Digg or Reddit? Why or why not?
16. How awesome would a dramatic performance of this, recorded as an audio file, be? How many takes would it require for the actors to get through the whole thing without laughing?
17. On a scale from one to ten, how appalled were you at this work of fiction, all in all?
18. On a scale from one to ten, how appalled are you that someone bothered to make a reasonably serious discussion guide about this?
19. Admit, if only to yourself-you want to read a sequel, don't you?

Thank you for reading The Nurse's Dirty Secret. I hope you enjoyed it...