

Reader's Group Guide
to
The Last Valentine



James Michael Pratt

The Last Valentine was first written between the months of January 1996 and July 1996. It was the author's first full manuscript and was written as an inspirational fiction read with focus on a World War Two love story, remembrances in the present, and what that meaning to a woman and her son carried.

1. Main characters are:
2. The story takes place in what locations?
U.S.?
Foreign?
3. Who is Susan Allison and what is she searching for?
4. What is Neil Thomas Jr. attempting to do when he meets Susan?
5. What meaning does Caroline Thomas provide to the reader?
6. To Susan?
7. In Caroline's eyes, what meaning does Union Train Station hold?
8. For you the reader?
9. What promise does Navy pilot Lt. Neil Thomas make as he boards the train for the war on Valentine's Day 1944?
10. Is Caroline's promise unrealistic to you?

11. Las Golandrinas restaurant is a real place (and the first place Pratt took his wife on a date). What significance does Las Golandrinas hold for Caroline? Neil? The reader?
12. Neil Thomas and Susan Allison hold on to past feelings. What are they and how do they each deal with them?
13. What role does Lt. Neil Thomas play behind enemy lines?

With the Filipinos

With Japanese soldier Captain Ito

What message comes through to his son and us today?
14. What is Caroline's response to the term "Missing in Action?"
15. When the last valentine finally comes home what does Caroline learn?

Neil Jr.?

Susan Allison?

Train station attendants?
16. What was Japanese Captain Osamo Ito's message to his wife and how did it have true application to all the participants lives?
17. What true anecdotal history or locations from author's past were used in and influenced the storyline? (see www.jmpratt.com for answers, click on *The Last Valentine* cover.)