

**NANCY:** An elegantly written tale of high stake happenings. Packed together into this thick novel you'll find porters and moles, lifestyles, lovers and grieving widows, bankers, artists and much more. The author weaves together brilliant threads of engaging characters into a well-crafted mystery with considerable adventure taking you to Switzerland, Paris and the Caribbean, into the lives of the rich and powerful who live criminal lives.

**PRISCILLA:** Oh my, this story was really something, wasn't it? Makes you wonder about the rich, the famous, the politicians, doesn't it? A lot of crooks! Does this kind of stuff really happen? I' ve always heard about Swiss banks. Never dreamed this stuff about them!



**ABIGAIL**: What does scripture say? "The love of money is the root of all evil." That could be the thesis of this book. The desire for money sets people on a path of deception and once they begin, it's hard to get out. Others get sucked on. I like that this book exposes people who allow greed to control them and also suggests that eventually they may get their due. What a story!



**MOLLY:** I loved the whistleblowers in this story. Being African-American, I tend to be on the side of the underdogs. The author did such a good job of incorporating the reporters and moles into the story who became the harbingers of truth and walked a dangerous path to expose the criminals., with a few good twists that kept you wondering who was who until the very end. Touché!

**KATHARINE:** You know we came together over romance novels, which were nice ways to escape daily life. Mysteries provide a similar function, don't you think? This one sure took me into a different world. A fun escape into the dark side!

**JANE:** Loved the strong female characters in this novel. Did you notice how they did much of the dirty work in uncovering the truth? Cheers to this female novelist and her strong female crusaders. What do you say, MAMs? How about a toast to them all? Cheers to Anabelle, Zoe, and Marina. Hear! Hear!



**SALLIE:** The author did her homework. I found it intriguing how wounded childhoods led some of these people to become pawns for those in control. Once again we see that a child's early life often determines their future. Not just in this story, but in every day life, this reminds us that we must work to make life better for the children to build a better society. We have a long way to go.

# The MAMs Book Club

## **Discussion Guide**

#### About the Book

Book Title: The Dames Bonker's Author: Cristina Algers Book Title: The Banker's Wife 🗤 🔚 Published: 2018, Penguin Group (USA) LLC Author Website: https://cristinaalger.com/ Facebook: www.facebook.com/AuthorCristinaAlger/

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. What were your general impressions of this book?

2. Cristina Alger graduated from Harvard College and NYU law school and worked as a financial analyst and corporate attorney before becoming a writer. How do you think her background contributes to her ability to write this story?

3. What did you know of Swiss banks before you read this novel? What do you think of them now? To what extent do you think this is an accurate portrayal and why?

4. Annabelle takes a courageous path as a new widow. What motivates her and how does she find this courage? Could you see yourself taking this approach? Why or why not?

5. This book also exposes corruption of American political leaders. How many of our political leaders do you think are corrupt? Is it still possible to expose and end their careers if they are doing evil things? Why or why not?

6. Why do you think Cristina Alger wrote this novel and what do you think she was trying to communicate? If you have time, listen to the YouTube videos below before you discuss this question!

7. Would you recommend this book to others to read? Why or why not?

8. Read over the MAMs comments on the book. Which of them do you most agree with and why?

9. In what ways, if any, will this change your life or perspective?

#### **On YouTube:**

Bookstr Talks: Cristina Alger (12: 23)

NSL Bites: Cristina Alger Discusses the Inspiration Behind her New Novel (1:52)

Cristina Alger: Strong Women (1:19)