

## **Book Club Questions for Among the Branded by Linda Smolkin**

In case you're looking for questions to ponder while discussing *Among the Branded* for your book club, here are a few to jumpstart the conversation:

- 1) Do you have a favorite character from the book? If so, what was it about the character that made you choose him or her?
- 2) How do you feel about the way Stephanie handled her moral dilemma at work? Would you have handled it the same way? If not, how would you have handled it differently?
- 3) The concept of "surprising discoveries" underpins the plot of *Among The Branded*. First, it's a letter Stephanie finds that was written during WWII, and then it's her workplace discovery. Have you had similar experiences where you've uncovered or found out something that has changed your life?
- 4) Several characters are dealing with or have dealt with the loss of loved ones, and they seem to mourn in different ways. Some use humor to get through it and some try to stay busy or just move on. Do you think it's okay to mourn in different ways? Do you think there should be a time limit on grieving?
- 5) Even though *Among the Branded* is contemporary fiction, it does have historical elements specifically about WWII and the Holocaust. What did you think about the author sprinkling in these details? Also, was there anything you learned that you didn't know about before reading the book?
- 6) If *Among the Branded* were made into a movie, who would you choose to play the cast of characters and why?