

# *Love at the Border*

An Adoption Memoir  
from Mexico

By Anna Maria DiDio

## Book Group Discussion Questions

1. What were some of the cultural differences that Richard, Anna Maria, and Isabella had to think about in preparation for their travels to visit Mexico? What sort of things do you take into consideration when planning to travel to another country?
2. What agency requirements did Anna Maria and Richard have to complete to prepare for the adoption? What else could they or the agencies have done to be better prepared?
3. How did Anna Maria and Richard encourage Priscilla to reclaim her Spanish language capabilities and Mexican culture?
4. Blended families occur in many ways — divorce/re-marriage, foster children, step-children. What do parents need to do in order to better prepare children for life in a family formed in this way?
5. Sibling relationships can vary greatly whether there is a biological connection or not. What were some of the factors that contributed to Isabella's and Priscilla's relationship?
6. Describe your understanding of the Primal Wound theory. What is your reaction to this concept? If you have experience with adopted children, does the theory ring true for you?
7. How did Anna Maria's faith keep her grounded during her journey of infertility through to adoption? Has faith/spirituality made a difference for you in your own struggles?
8. What were some of the community support systems in place after Priscilla was adopted? What role did the school have in Priscilla's adjustment to life in the United States? Did they make a difference in her ability to adjust to her new environment?
9. Throughout the book, Priscilla experiences different types of trauma. With courage and support, she is able to cope and move on. In thinking about your own ability to deal with trauma, what reflections do you have on your coping mechanisms? Are there things you would like to change/improve?
10. How do we encourage our children to increase their capacity for tolerance and show kindness when other children enter their world, do not speak their language or look different from them? How do we teach children about the gifts of diversity and to be open to inclusion?

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