

# STELLA BARCELONA

## Shadows Book Club Discussion Questions

1. Which relationship in *Shadows* was your favorite, and why – the relationship between Skye Barrows and her younger sister, Spring; the romance that developed between Skye and Sebastian Connelly; or the relationship that developed between Spring and Sebastian?
2. What do you believe motivated Sebastian? Did his actions stay true to his motivation throughout the story? Who should play him in the movie version?
3. What do you believe motivated Skye? Did her actions stay true to her motivation throughout the story? Who should play her in the movie version?
4. What did you think of Ragno? Do you have ideas regarding her background?
5. In *Shadows*, Skye and Spring owned Creative Confections, a coffee shop and bakery. Do you regularly frequent a coffee shop or bakery? Is it anything like Creative Confections?
6. Sebastian ultimately admired Skye and her determination to take care of her younger sister, but in the beginning he used Skye's relationship with Spring to his advantage. How did you feel about Sebastian in the beginning of the story? Were his actions justified? Was there a time in the story when you did not like him? If so, what action(s), if anything, redeemed him?
7. What surprised you about *Shadows*?
8. Richard Barrows claims to have developed Shadow Technology, which has the capability of assimilating all cyber data collected by the U.S. Government and turning that data into relevant information about any U.S. citizen's daily habits. Do you believe such technology exists in real life? Do you believe the U.S. Government has such technology?
9. When Ragno and Sebastian discuss the U.S. Government's data collection capabilities (Chapter Seven), Sebastian states: "We know the government collects everything, all the time." Do you believe this statement is true? Do you believe the U.S. Government is capable of collecting your data (emails, cell phone records, etc.) without your knowledge?
10. Governmental collection of cyber data, as discussed in *Shadows*, raises issues under the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which provides: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or

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affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.” Do you believe that the Fourth Amendment requires law enforcement agencies to obtain a search warrant before collecting and analyzing your cyber information, such as online data, phone records, emails, and cloud account data? Should the Government have the right to collect such data without a warrant?

11. Would you want to meet any of the characters in Shadows? In what setting?
12. What did you think of the jellybean moments in Shadows? What is your favorite brand of jellybeans? Flavor? Have you had popcorn flavored jellybeans?