An Extraordinary Union by Alyssa Cole Book Club

1. What do you think of the 3rd person narration?
2. How do you think the Prologue and Elle's injury shape the story?
3. What do you think of the setting of Richmond, Virginia during the Civil War period?
4. How do you feel about the spying plans?
5. Would you trust the other conspirators? Why or why not?
6. Who is your favorite character and why?
7. Who is your least favorite character and why?
8. Would you want Elle's special talent? Why or why not?
9. How do you feel about the reasons Elle and Malcolm become spies?
10. During their first meeting in Richmond, Malcolm thinks he is flirting but Elle sees it as something completely different. What do you think of this initial interaction?
11. What do you think of their different approaches to spying?
12. Which approach do you think would be more successful and why?
13. Is pretending to be mute a good tactic for Elle? Why or why not?
14. How do you feel about Malcolm and Elle's meeting as spies?
15. Do you think Elle's trip to Liberia influenced her personal story?
16. Were you surprised by their realization of their first meeting in Baltimore? Why or why not?
17. What do you think of Elle's relationship with Daniel?
18. Malcolm realizes he's falling for Elle and reflects on people he knew from his hometown who were a former slave and a German immigrant. How do you think this relationship would have been seen by others at the time?
19. What do you think about the bad batches of information that happen during spying?
20. How do you feel about Elle and Malcolm's run in with the slavers?
21. What do you think of Mary's worries for Elle and her relationship with Malcolm?
22. Once he falls for Elle, Malcolm doesn't act interested in Susie, how do you feel about it?
23. What do you think of Rufus interrogating Malcolm?
24. How do you feel about the escape attempt with the steamboat?
25. Did you expect Malcolm to survive? Why or why not?
26. What did you think of the ending?
27. Did you like the book?

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