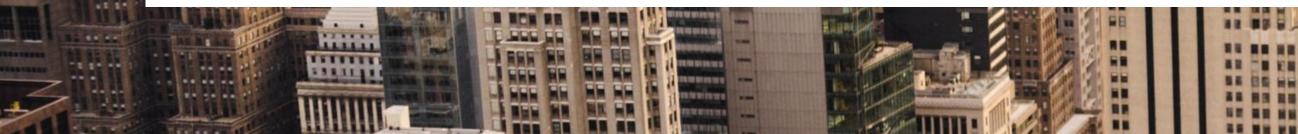
## Book Club Kit

### "DiAnn Mills never disappoints!"

Lynette Eason, award-winning author



1001



## Praise for DiAnn Mils

"Fast-paced and riveting action flow throughout to keep the reader engaged and turning pages. . . . A great read . . . don't miss it!"

Fresh Fiction on Fatal Strike

"The opening scenes are filled with action, which keeps the adrenaline flowing through to the end. . . . [A] riveting book."

The Suspense Zone on Fatal Strike

"An inherently riveting read from beginning to end."

Midwest Book Review on Burden of Proof

## About DiAnn Mills

DIANN MILLS is a bestselling author who believes her readers should expect an adventure. She combines unforgettable characters with unpredictable plots to create action-packed romantic suspense novels.

Her titles have appeared on the CBA and ECPA bestseller lists; won two Christy Awards; and been finalists for the RITA, Daphne du Maurier, Inspirational Reader's Choice, and Carol Award contests. *Firewall*, the first book in her FBI: Houston series, was listed by *Library Journal* as one of the best Christian fiction books of 2014.

DiAnn is a founding board member of the American Christian Fiction Writers and a member of Advanced Writers and Speakers Association, Sisters in Crime, and International Thriller Writers. She is codirector of the Blue Ridge Mountains Christian Writers Conference, where she continues her passion of helping other writers be successful. She speaks to various groups and teaches writing workshops around the country.

DiAnn has been termed a coffee snob and roasts her own coffee beans. She's an avid reader, loves to cook, and believes her grandchildren are the smartest kids in the universe. She and her husband live in sunny Houston, Texas.

DiAnn is very active online and would love to connect with readers through her website at diannmills.com or on Facebook (<u>facebook.com/DiAnnMills</u>), Twitter (<u>@DiAnnMills</u>), Pinterest (<u>pinterest.com/DiAnnMills</u>), and Goodreads (<u>goodreads.com/DiAnnMills</u>).



### He had the skills to develop a killer virus.

He had motive to eliminate her from his life.

Had she crossed the line from love to contempt?

### **Discussion Questions**

1.) Heather is taking off on a vacation without her husband. What decisions is she wrestling with? What advice would you give her as she faces life-changing choices?

2.) As Heather's fellow passengers fall ill on the plane, she wonders why God would allow so many to succumb. What does she tell her seatmate Mia about faith? What answers do you have for these types of questions?

3.) Why does Chad say he's seeking to divorce Heather? Are these marital problems things they could overcome? Why or why not? What does the Bible say about divorce? What qualities are needed for successful marriages? 4.) Why is Chad so resistant to the "God thing" Heather has going? How would you approach sharing the gospel with someone like him?

5.) Heather is quick to offer compassion and assistance to others but reluctant to accept it for herself. Why is it sometimes hard to be on the receiving end of such acts of kindness? What can you do to show someone kindness today?

6.) Even after Chad learns that he and Heather are expecting a child together, he's resistant to the idea of reaching out to his wife. What excuses does he give? What eventually changes his mind?

Continued on next page

7.) When Chad's name surfaces as a person of interest in the deadly virus infection, what makes Heather think he might be guilty?

8.) In this story, the media is quick to spread unsupported allegations, and this misinformation is believed as the truth. How does the author's portrayal of the media compare to real-life agencies? What techniques can you use to discern the truth and avoid falling for "fake news"?

9.) Chad tends to want to squash his emotions, favoring logic and scientific reasoning over feelings. When might his approach to life be appropriate or even necessary? When should emotions be allowed to control a person's actions or reactions? 10.) Heather recognizes that her relationship with Chad has reached an unhealthy place. What steps does she take to try to change her interactions with him? What other things might you suggest Heather do to establish healthier boundaries?

11.) Chad's revelations about God bring him to a surprising conclusion about his relationship with Heather and the importance of his work. What does he begin to understand as he reads and learns more about God? In what ways does his thinking line up with the truth of Romans 8:28?

12.) How do you feel about the way mental illness is portrayed in this story? How are people afflicted with mental illness perceived, both in the story and in real life? What can be done to avoid negative stereotypes?

"Please, be careful. If the person who spread the virus is on Adam's Island, he has every step of your life memorized."

## **Q&A with DiAnn Mils**

### Q. Where did you come up with the idea for the plot of Airborne?

A. Honestly, I have no idea, but the concept was probably a dream. The what-if wouldn't leave me alone: What if a virus was unleashed on an international flight? But the research stopped me cold. Nearly three years after the idea, I began the research and writing

process.

### Q. What do you enjoy most about writing about the work of the FBI?

A. The many divisions, the art of investigation, and the many personalities of not only the agents but those whom they encounter. I find the FBI exciting and interesting.

A. People in charge of others sometimes find it difficult to rely on God when they feel a personal responsibility for what goes on around them. My hero and heroine found a spiritual crisis in which they had to choose whether to accept God's sovereignty or walk away.

### Q. What was your favorite scene to write in Airborne?

A. My favorite scene was when Heather undergoes surgery for appendicitis. Chad flies to see her with the realization he loves her and wants to save their marriage. But he will not serve God. Heather refuses reconciliation until he actively pursues a relationship with God.

### Q. How does faith play a role in the story?

Continued on next page

Q. Heather and her husband have a strained relationship, which only gets more complicated when his possible connection to the virus outbreak is revealed. Why did you choose to include Heather's husband as a suspect? What might this conflict reveal about the nature of marriage?

A. For Heather's character arc, for her to grow and change, she needed to experience betrayal and doubt in the worst way. I wanted her to be pelted with why she didn't see that Chad's motivation to achieve success meant sacrificing the lives of others in the name of medical research.

In a marriage, when a spouse puts work or an interest above the relationship, that priority supersedes the marriage and even God. The unbalance causes the marriage to deteriorate.

### Q. What inspired the personality traits of your main character, Houston FBI Agent **Heather Lawrence?**

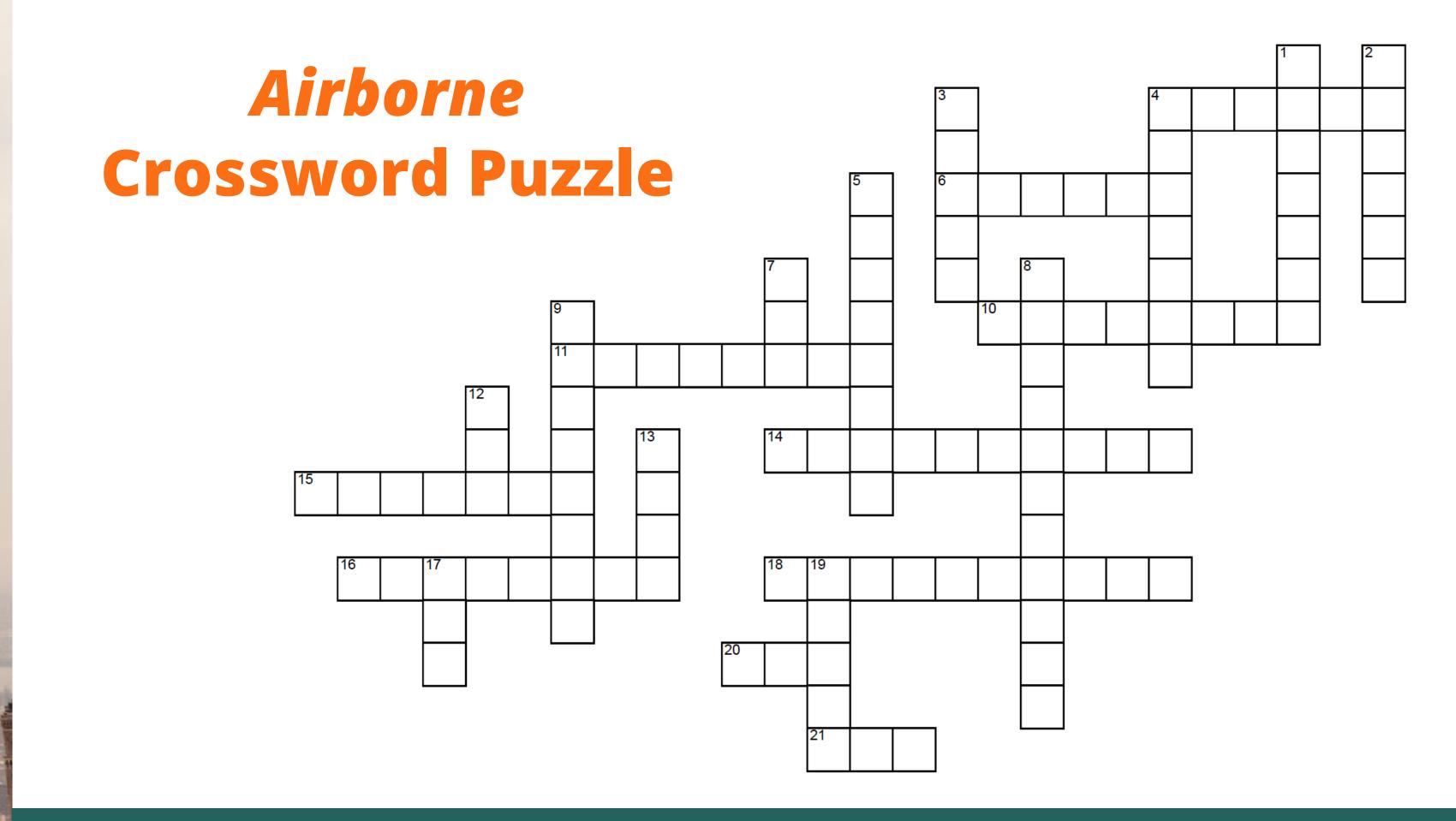
A. I wanted to show a woman and agent whose background in behavior analysis served as an aid and a determent in trying to figure out who was behind the unleashing of the virus. My desire was to show a complex woman whose marriage had hit rock bottom, but she loved her husband. She met challenges head-on, and yet, the inconceivable blindsided her.

Q. What are you most excited for your readers to experience through reading this novel?

### "Heroes are built from adversity."

Airborne

A. Hope . . . hope in a failing marriage; hope in a fallen world; hope and trust in God's sovereignty.



### ACROSS

- 4. A reason for doing or acting, esp. suspects
- 6. Body of land surrounded by water
- 10. Pain in the head
- 11. Airplane or flight machine
- 14. Easily spread from one organism to another by direct contact

STRALIT

- 15. A substance used to fight the spread of disease
- 16. Time away from a job or career
- 18. Scientists experiment here
- 20. Personal Protection Equipment
- 21. Transportation Security Administration

### DOWN

- 1. The result of dissolving a marriage
- 2. The action or statement of concealing the truth
- 3. Trust or confidence in something or someone
- 4. Relating to the science of medicine
- 5. One of the symptoms of the flu or other virus
- 7. Federal Aviation Administration
- 8. Breathing is a part of this system

9. Disease that spreads through a whole country or world

- 12. Federal Bureau of Investigation
- 13. Two children resulting from the same birth, singular
- 17. Center for Disease Control
- 19. A person or thing that acts in behalf of another



# My Book Club Notes



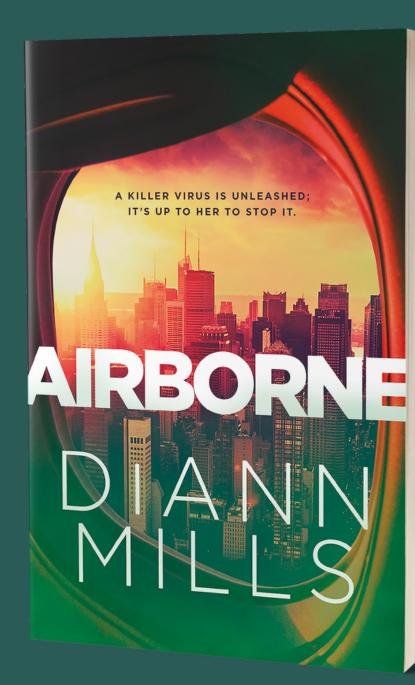


# My Book Club Notes





### Thanks for choosing



### as your book club pick.

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