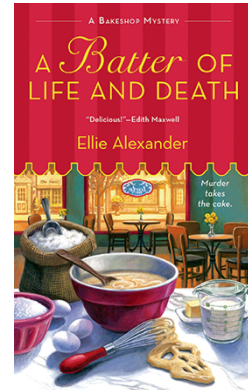


# ***A Batter of Life and Death*** **by Ellie Alexander** **Book Club Questions**



1. A baking show, *Take the Cake*, comes to Ashland. At first Jules is hesitant to participate. Why do you think she agrees? Is it only for the cash or are there other reasons motivating her?
2. *Take the Cake* brings new bakers from around the country into Torte's kitchen. What new baking styles did you learn about? What were your reactions to the methods?
3. Celebrity chefs are walking the streets of Ashland during filming. How do the characters react to having celebrities in their midst? Have you ever changed behavior around a celebrity? Why?
4. As the competition heats up, who did you think would win and why? Do you think Jules cared about winning?
5. Family is very important to Jules. What do we learn about Jules relationship with her family and her team at Torte in this book?
6. Jules is really starting to become part of the local scenery in Ashland. What in the book shows this?
7. Jules stretches herself by competing in *Take the Cake*. Have you ever competed in something or taken on a project that you weren't sure you were ready for? Did it end up being a good experience or a disaster?
8. Some of the competitors aren't who they claim to be. Have there been times in your life that you have pretended to be someone you aren't? When and why?

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