DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR "THE ZHIVAGO AFFAIR"

1. In what ways did the Soviet authorities reject *Doctor Zhivago*, and what does that reveal about political censorship?

2. How does the CIA's decision to publish and smuggle *Doctor Zhivago* into the Soviet Union illustrate the role of literature in Cold War strategy?

3. What role did Giangiacomo Feltrinelli play in bringing *Doctor Zhivago* to the West?

4. How did the novel's themes of love, fate, and historical change affect Pasternak's personal life?

5. How did the Soviet press and public react to Pasternak's Nobel Prize acceptance?

6. How did the "writer-dissident" tradition emerge from events surrounding *Doctor Zhivago*?

7. In what ways does *Doctor Zhivago* engage with Russian literary tradition and modernism?

8. How has *Doctor Zhivago* been interpreted in post-Soviet Russia compared to its Cold War reception?

9. How do Finn and Couvee's use of declassified CIA files shape *The Zhivago Affair's* narrative?

10. What lessons can be drawn from *The Zhivago Affair* about the importance of preserving historical memory?