



2 below zero

### **Conversation Starter: Consuming Desire**

1. How do you feel after you've made a big purchase? Have you ever felt buyer's remorse?
2. Have you ever bought anything you didn't need—or, ultimately, want? If so, what did you do about it?
3. Have you ever concealed a purchase from your partner or spouse? If so, why?
4. Under what conditions or in what moods do you like to shop?
5. Has your buying behavior changed since the 24/7 Internet mall opened?
6. Do you think people who buy excessively have a problem only if they can't afford it? In other words, are people with fewer means more likely to develop a compulsive-buying problem than those with ample?
7. Have you ever consciously practiced frugality—with a group or on your own? If so, how did it change the way you thought about your needs and wants?
8. What associations do you have to the concept of frugality?
9. Do you, or have you ever, collected something? What? Why?
10. Do you think our culture encourages extreme consumerism? Why? What effect has it had on you? On society?