



Book Club in a Bag

Discussion Questions

Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires by Grady Hendrix

1. After an uncomfortable introduction to the neighborhood, James Harris quickly and almost seamlessly transitions into being a trusted resident. Why does he fit in so well despite his sudden and surprising appearance?
2. How do all the women in the book club respond to reports of strange or downright scary events, and how does their environment influence the different strengths and weaknesses they display?
3. "Something strange is going on" is a phrase Patricia repeats throughout the book. Are there red flags about James Harris early on that the women miss, or ignore? Are their reservations different from those of their husbands?
4. Patricia is the one person who remains suspicious of her handsome new neighbor despite his friendly and charming exterior. Why do you think she is more prone to considering the possibility of a menace in their midst?
5. The response to reports of missing children in Six Mile versus Mt. Pleasant differs greatly, among both residents and law enforcement. What are the social implications of these differing reactions, and how do they influence the way the story plays out?
6. Although there is one obvious monster at the center of the story, we learn that fear, dread, and terror come in many forms. Is there more than one kind of monster? What are the scariest elements of this story and why?
7. Discuss how the women come together to end the threat to their community. Do you think the women's actions are justified, or do they go too far?
8. What elements of vampire lore has Grady Hendrix expanded upon, discarded, and added to the genre? Do you think he has successfully furthered readers' expectations for the vampire novel?

The above questions were taken from
https://www.quirkbooks.com/sites/default/files/segments/Southern%20Book%20Club_RGG_Final.pdf for your discussion of the book.

Author Biography

Grady Hendrix is a novelist and screenwriter based in New York City. His novels include *Horrorstör*, named one of the best books of 2014 by NPR, and *My Best Friend's Exorcism*, for which the *Wall Street Journal* dubbed him "a national treasure." The Bram Stoker Award-winning *Paperbacks from Hell*, a survey of outrageous horror novels of the 1970s and '80s, was called "pure, demented delight" by the *New York Times Book Review*. His most recent novel, *We Sold Our Souls*, was an NPR Pop Culture Happy Hour Pick and an i09 Fall Preview Pick. He has contributed to *Playboy*, *The Village Voice*, and *Variety*.

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