



## Discussion Questions

1. *The Tudor Vendetta* takes place in the first few months of Elizabeth I's accession to the throne. What did you discover about the country she first inherited? What were some of the challenges she faced? How does England at the start of her reign differ from her later years?
2. Religious conflict in England is a strong motivator for certain characters. How did Catholics feel about Elizabeth Tudor's right to rule? Do you see any parallels in today's religious divides?
3. Brendan Prescott is Elizabeth I's private spy. In this novel, he must make difficult choices that change his perception of the queen he serves. What are some of the decisions he faces? How do you think you may have acted if you were in his shoes?
4. Secrets are the underlying theme of this series. Do you find the secrets credible?
5. What are your perceptions of Philippa Vaughan? Do you understand her reasons for her actions? What does her character tell us about the roles of women in the Tudor world?
6. Brendan's relationship with Elizabeth is one of both confidant and pawn. Do you agree with how Elizabeth treats him? What are your impressions of his loyalty to the queen? Do you think he likes her?
7. Yorkshire, London Bridge, and the Tower are sites featured in this novel. What did you learn about how common people lived? What are some of the differences they faced compared to those who lived at court? If you had to choose, where would you prefer to live?
8. Elizabeth Tudor is one of history's most famous queens, but here we see a different side of her. Do you agree with the author's depiction of her? Did you find her sympathetic? Why or why not?
9. During the course of the novel, there are many twists and turns. Which was most unexpected for you?
10. Who was your favorite character in the book and why?

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