



## BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The novel opens with Jen at a party with the murder victim, but she doesn't get a chance to talk to him before he disappears. Do you think the rest of the novel's events would have been different had she acted differently? If so, in what way?
2. Much of the action is centered around a local artist's commune in the area. Why did you think Ann chose this as the main setting for the book? What about it lends itself to a murder investigation?
3. Do you feel there are any characters involved in the case who are completely blameless? How much responsibility should they feel for the things they didn't do, or didn't say?
4. Ross is a complicated character. What do you think of Venn's supporting team? Do you feel they let their own experiences effect their professional lives too much?
5. Why do you think location is so important in this series, and how does it impact the characters?
6. We see Jonathan and Matthew's relationship develop in *The Heron's Cry*. Do you think they compliment each other? Do you think Matthew underestimates Jonathan?
7. Family is an important theme in this novel. Do you think it's true that you hurt the ones you love the most? How far would you go to protect someone you loved?
8. There is more than one type of crime in this novel. Why do you think it was possible for these events to happen, and for them to stay secret for as long as they did?
9. Were you surprised by the reveal of the murderer at the end? If so, what red herrings did Ann weave in along the way?
10. For readers who have read *The Long Call*, how do you think Matthew Venn has developed as a character since the events of that book?