



1. What do you think about Gifford's introduction in the book? What are his motives for trying to get on Tora's good side?
2. Why does Tora get so involved in the investigation? Is it just curiosity, or is there something in her personality that leads to her involvement?
3. Who do you think left the animal heart in Tora's kitchen? How would you react to such a moment?
4. Tora figures out that the woman found in her field wasn't Kirsten through her dental records; what is the purpose of the Kirsten plot and what does it do for how you read the rest of the book?
5. Tora is an obstetrician and delivers several babies throughout the book. What do you think this does for the novel? What about the dichotomy between life and death is interesting to you?
6. What do you think about Duncan's Desogestrel? Knowing how the book ends, do you agree with his decision?
7. The Shetland setting is a prominent part of this book—how would it be different elsewhere? What did you learn about this remote place?
8. What did you think when Tora and Dunn found Dana? Were you surprised? Do you think it was a suicide?
9. How does Helen's arrival change the plot of the book? Do you think she was an important addition?
10. Were you surprised by Stephen Gair's confession? What else could have been the answer?

*Discussion  
Questions*



11. What leads to Tora arriving on Tronal? What would you have done in her stead?
12. How do you feel about the portrayal of toxic masculinity in this book? How has the climate changed in terms of gender issues in society today since 2008?