

DEVIL IN THE DUNES

discussion questions

Hello, everyone! Thanks so much for choosing my suspense novel for your book club! While it is an engrossing crime story, it's definitely more than a simple whodunnit. It has powerful themes of love, hope, hatred, and redemption. Hope you enjoyed it

Wendy Byard

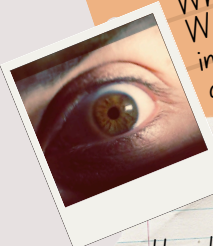


WENDY BYARD



WEST MICHIGAN

- How familiar were you with West Michigan before reading the novel?
- What did you learn about this area?
- How was this setting important to the novel?
- How did the details and descriptions of this area add to your reading of the novel?
- Which descriptions did you particularly enjoy?
- Were there metaphorical aspects to Momma Bear in the novel? In the end as Nick sees driving the boat to shore and safety?



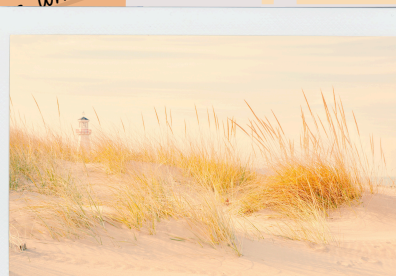
THE WEIRDO

- How did you react to the beginning chapter and The Weirdo?
- Why do you think he thought and behaved as he did? Was he a sociopath?
- What was the impact of his father on his development? What about generational abuse? Could he be helped later in his life?
- Could The Weirdo have made different choices or was he wired to be deviant?
- What part, if any, did others play in who he became?
- Do we have a responsibility to intervene when we see damaged people in need?
- Did Robert deserve his death?



CADIE MCLEOD

- What did you like about Cadie McLeod? What were her traits?
- Would you like to learn more about her? If so, what?
- What impact did her parents' death have on her?
- What allowed her to fight her way to freedom? To persevere?
- Were there metaphorical aspects to her being entombed? Being rescued by Jake?
- What do you think the future holds for her? What would you like to see happen?
- What did her mother mean by being "free"? Should Cadie marry Nick?



Harbor Cove

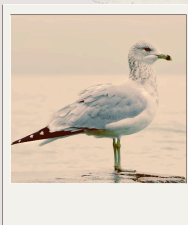


THE PLOT

- Were you surprised by the ending? If so, why? Did you figure it out beforehand?
- Who did you think The Weirdo was and why?
- Did you think Cadie would live?
- Were you surprised by how Cadie escaped?
- How did you feel during the final scene as Nick and Robert fought?
- What was your reaction to the final chapter at MSU? Cadie's resolve to find justice for others? How do you think Cadie's parents would have felt about how their daughter turned out?

JAKE BRENNAN

- What are your thoughts about Jake? Was he a broken man? Heroic?
- Should his wife have left him? Thoughts?
- Is there anyone in your life that reminds you of Jake and why?
- What allowed Jake to stop and save Cadie's life knowing his own son was in peril on the Van der Velt yacht?
- What accounts for courage?
- What are your reactions to the suffering Jake had endured/seen?



wendybyardauthor.com