

THE SECRET BOOKSTORE SLEUTH SOCIETY

DISCUSSION GUIDE



From #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Mystery of Locked Rooms* comes a thrilling murder mystery. In this exciting series starter, four best friends are trapped in a book-themed inn during an ice storm and they must use each of their special skills, as well as a few tips from an armchair-detective grandma, to figure out who killed one of the regular customers.

Merrick McGee is having a tough time adjusting to her grandma Ida moving in and disrupting life. She's been sequestered in a small room in the back of a bookstore connected to a book-themed inn and spends her hours trying not to think about what her friends are up to while she's caring for grannie.

But when an ice storm hits their town and brings everyone together at the inn, Merrick is stoked to have uninterrupted time with her friends. But then the unthinkable happens and someone is found dead.

With the storm picking up, the police remove the body and suggest he died of old age. But to Merrick it seems more like a murder. She begins to investigate only to discover her grandma may be the key to solving the case...



LINDSAY CURRIE is a #1 *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of mysteries for young readers, including the *Delta Games* series and *It's Watching*. She grew up on *Nancy Drew* and loves a good twisty tale. When she's not writing, Lindsay can generally be found looking for an adventure of her own. She loves researching forgotten history and recently relocated from Chicago to a 220-acre farm in downstate Illinois where she finally gets to see stars every night and take hikes every day. For more information about Lindsay or her books, please visit www.lindsaycurrie.com



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- At the beginning of the book, Merrick is unhappy that grandma Ida has moved into her house. How do her opinions of her grandmother change over the course of the story?
- In one scene, Merrick tells her grandmother that she'll be "a noble gas" from that point on. What does that mean and do you think Merrick keeps her promise? How?
- The suspects that the *Secret Bookstore Sleuth Society* identify all seem suspicious, but in the end, only one of them really is. What does this teach Merrick and her friends about assumptions? Have you ever assumed something that was wrong?
- Who did you think the suspect was, and why?
- Merrick, Miko, Sonny, and Archer all have different strengths that help them solve this mystery. What would you say they are?
- Do you have a hobby or skill that you think would make you good at solving mysteries? What is it?
- If you had to pick one of the sleuths to invite to your next birthday party, who would it be and why?
- Family is an important theme in this book. What are some other themes you picked up on?

