

Book Club Guide

Resurrection Angel by William Mize

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Let's Talk About..

... Denton Ward

- How does Denton's choice of clothing reflect his personality?
- How does Denton's choice of car reflect his personality?
- Because of his psychic ability, Denton feels he must protect himself. Discuss several ways that he does this, both physically and emotionally.
- Discuss any instances where Denton opens up and is vulnerable. Are there any time where this is a good thing? Are there any times where this is a bad thing?
- When interviewing a suspect, Denton is the 'bad cop'. Why or why isn't this appropriate for him?
- Discuss the relationship between Denton and Monty. Is it healthy? Unhealthy? Why?
- What book is Denton reading when he meets Monty? How might this be symbolic or significant?
- If you were casting a movie of Resurrection Angel, who would you want to play Denton? Why?

... Monty Crocetti

- How does Monty's choice of clothing reflect her personality?
- How does Monty's choice of car reflect her personality?
- How does religion affect Monty's life? Her choices? Are there any inconsistencies between them?
- Despite her rough exterior, Monty seems to be quite sentimental, discuss any instances where this works for her. Where it works against her.
- When interviewing a suspect, Monty is the 'good cop'. Why or why isn't this appropriate for her?
- Discuss what 'career' Monty was in when she met Denton. How do you think that she reconciles this with her religious beliefs discussed above?
- If you were casting a movie of Resurrection Angel, who would you want to play Monty? Why?

... Lisa Rappaport

- William Mize has told us that Lisa's last name of Rappaport is his play on the word rapport. Look this word up in a dictionary of your choice and discuss how each of the several meanings and word origins are central to the book.
- Lisa has a different relationship with each character – Denton, Monty, Dr. Robbins, her father and Reggie, the janitor. Discuss each in turn.
- The word resurrection also plays an important part in Lisa's relationship with the characters. To resurrect means to 1 – to bring back to life, to raise from the dead and 2 - To bring back into practice, notice, or use. Take each character in turn and discuss just what Lisa brought back to life by interacting with each character.
- In what ways is Lisa a typical teenager? Compare and contrast her with any teenagers you know. Was the character captured accurately?
- Was Lisa kidnapped by aliens? Prove and defend your answer.

... Dr. Michael Robbins

- Mize has said that in his books there are no pure villains, only people. Do you feel that Michael Robbins was a sympathetic character? Why?
- Describe his relationship with his wife. How might this affect his choices in his career and life?
- Describe his relationship with his dead daughter? How might this affect his choices in his career and life?

... Themes and Symbols

- Discuss how Mize uses art, music, television and film throughout the book to set mood, image and metaphor. Do you feel this is successful?
- Discuss how Mize uses a reoccurring theme of death and resurrection throughout the book to make the mystery deeper and more satisfying. Or worse and less satisfying.
- Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) and the possibility of alien abduction figure heavily in this novel. Do you believe in UFO's? Do you believe in life on other planets?

- Discuss the use of overt religious images to amplify the theme of life, death and revenge that exist in every mystery novel. How is Resurrection Angel different than other mystery novels? How is it similar?
- Denton and Monty live in a converted firehouse. How might this seem symbolically appropriate, given their respective jobs?

... Extra Credit Questions

- The color white appears several times in the book as a harbinger of death for Lisa. Where are they?
- Name the religious image that appears at least twice in the book and how it ties in with the meaning of the word resurrection and the theme of death and rebirth.

We hope you have enjoyed this discussion guide. Remember, these are just starting points to the many discussions possible on Resurrection Angel, and that there are no definite answers, only perception, opinion and belief. Agree, disagree, discuss, but always play nice.

Is there something else you'd like to add to this guide?

Contact us at <http://www.williammize.com> and let us know your thoughts.

Would your Book Club like a call from the author, William Mize?

If you have access to a speaker phone at your meeting place and would like him to make a short call to say hello, and surprise your club, contact us at the website above and we'll make it happen!