



## Book Club Questions



BORED TO DEATH  
BOOK CLUB

1. What are your initial impressions of Martha Ballard as a protagonist?
2. How does the setting of 1789 Maine shape the story?
3. What role does Martha's profession as a midwife play in the story?
4. How does the murder trial impact Martha personally and professionally?
5. Discuss the feminist themes in the book. How does Martha challenge or conform to the gender norms of her time?
6. How does the author use Martha's diary to inform the narrative?
7. What did you think of the murder mystery? Did you guess the outcome?
8. How does the book explore themes of justice and morality?
9. What role do secondary characters play in shaping the story?
10. How does Ariel Lawhon balance historical accuracy with fictional storytelling?
11. What does the frozen river symbolize in the story?
12. How does the book address the concept of community?
13. Were there moments when you disagreed with Martha's actions or decisions?
14. What did you think of the portrayal of justice in the trial?
15. How do themes of family and duty shape Martha's character?
16. How does the book handle the idea of truth versus perception?
17. What are your thoughts on the pacing of the story? Did it hold your attention?
18. How does the book shed light on women's roles in early American history?
19. If you could ask Ariel Lawhon one question about the book, what would it be?
20. Would you recommend this book to others? Why or why not?