



THE MEMORY OF BLOOD

bookclub questions

Starters for 10

THE FLASH ROUND – QUICK ANSWERS ONLY

The first three words that spring to mind when you think of The Memory of Blood (TMofB) are...

If you could invite anyone from TMofB over to your home for dinner, who would it be? Why?

Digging in

WHAT DID YOU THINK ABOUT THE MAIN CHARACTERS?

Did you like them? Were they believable? Who did you relate to the most/least? Did you approve of their decisions and behaviour? What would you have done differently? Who was your favourite? If you could have had more time with anyone in the book, who would it have been?

Both Mina and Evie lose their mothers as children. Both have their lives upended when they are 12. Both must travel far beyond their comfort zones early in the book. What other parallels (and differences) are between them?

How similar would they be if they lived in the same time?

How do Mina and Evie grow throughout the course of the story? What triggers these changes?

Where do you think Evie will be in 10 years?

HOW DID THE BOOK MAKE YOU FEEL?

What has stayed with you the most after reading TMofB?

Did the story unfold in the ways you expected? If not, what surprised you?

If you were sharing one moment of the book with someone who hasn't read it, what would it be?

THE READING EXPERIENCE

Did you race to the end, or was it more of a slow burn?

How did your opinion of the book change as you got deeper in?

What did you think about the motifs that echoed across both timelines: The oak tree, the necklace, reading, blue skies... Claudine's journals?

Are there lingering questions from TMofB that you're still thinking about?

How did you feel about the book's use of time ie: we see eight years of Mina's life and a week of Evie's? Is it fair to say Mina looks to the future, while Evie grapples with the past?

Why do you think Pony chose to tell the story directly from Mina, Evie and Grey's perspectives? Was there another character you would have liked to hear from?

Are there any passages you found compelling? If you were reading out a section to Book Club, which part would it be? Is there a scene you can't get out of your head?

Would you want to read another book by Pony?

Is this a feminist book? If so, what are the feminist themes?

Final round

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

How important were the locations in this book? Did they impact the story?

If you're not in London or Sydney (or Paris!), did this book make you want to travel to these places?

Of the two time periods, which would you rather live in?

MINDCASTING – THE FUN BIT!

What changes would you hope for if TMofB was turned into a movie?

Who would you cast to play the main characters?

