



MIDNIGHT INK

BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

Whiskey Straight Up

The Second Whiskey Mattimoe Mystery

1. Against her own judgment, Whiskey hires Roy Vickers. What are the factors that drive her to do so? Do you believe people are likely to regret or resent decisions made against their own judgment? Why?
2. What do we know—and what can we predict—regarding Whiskey's first husband, Jeb Halloran? Specifically how is he different from Whiskey's late second husband, Leo?
3. How and why does Gil Gruen consistently attempt to humiliate Whiskey?
4. What is it about Leo that motivates Whiskey to do a number of things she wouldn't choose to do otherwise, including provide room and board for Avery and twins? Why does Whiskey handle Avery so poorly?
5. Whiskey calls Deely Smarr "the Coast Guard nanny." What exactly qualifies Deely for her new job?
6. What's the story behind Fleggers and the Animal Ambulance? How are Fleggers both an advantage and an annoyance to Whiskey?
7. What is The System? Compare what you know about it to dogstrainyou-dot-com. What is your personal experience with animal-training "systems"?
8. What is your first impression of C. Richards, R.N.?
9. At what point does Chester's absence become truly alarming?
10. What is most distressing about Brady's find at Iberville?
11. When Deely reveals that she and the dogs found a body in the snowy night woods outside Vestige, whose corpse did you think it was? Why?

12. Why were Leah and Leo kidnapped? Does the kidnapper's reason for the double kidnapping make her more or less sympathetic? Explain.
13. Is it fair to call Whiskey a "reluctant" heroine? Why or why not?
14. The title ***Whiskey Straight Up*** alludes not only to Whiskey's helicopter ride but also to her efforts to do the right thing. How is this theme manifested in the book? What other characters are also "straight up"?

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