

## The Gilded Grave by Shelley Freydon Book Club

1. What do you think of the 3<sup>rd</sup> person narration from multiple perspectives?
2. How do you feel about the history in this historical mystery?
3. What do you think of the setting of Newport in the Gilded Age?
4. If you read *Deception by Gaslight*, how do the books compare to each other?
5. Would you want to be part of the Newport world? Why or why not?
6. The victim is Daisy, a maid, how do you think the story would be different if it had been a society girl?
7. Who is your favorite character and why?
8. Who is your least favorite character and why?
9. Why do you think Deanna gets involved in the case?
10. How do you feel about Joe's involvement in the case?
11. What do you think of the theme of the sugar monopoly and business dealings in the book?
12. How do you feel about the role of women in this society?
13. Do you think there is a romance subplot? Why or why not?
14. How do you feel about Deanna and Elspeth investigating?
15. What do you think of the interaction Deanna notices between Lord David and his "sister" Maddie?
16. How do you feel about the scene at the beach club with Swan?
17. What do you think of the murder of the 2<sup>nd</sup> victim, Claire?
18. Elspeth explains to Deanna that the servants know everything, do you believe her? Why or why not?
19. After that speech, should Deanna trust Elspeth? Why or why not?
20. What do you think of Deanna taking a drive with Joe?
21. How do you feel about Joe's treatment of Deanna when she's telling him about what she's learned?
22. Does it seem odd that Deanna would manage to slip into the room when Mr. Woodruff was having some type of fit?
23. On page 320, Mrs. Woodruff tells Deanna, "The dashers are charming but dash doesn't last-they grow old, lose their hair, gain a belly. And when the dash is gone, there isn't much left but the bills." Do you agree?
24. What do you think of Deanna and Joe's fathers creating a new company to protect themselves from their business associate?
25. How do you feel about the murder attempt and the fake suicide note?
26. What did you think of the ending?
27. Did you guess who the killer was?
28. Did you like the book?
29. Do you want to read more in the series?