

UNKNOWN ENEMY

A Green Dory Inn Mystery, Book 1

Discussion Questions

1. How important is place to you in a story? Do you prefer to read fiction based in settings you know or those unfamiliar to you?
2. Nobody dies in this story. How do you feel about a murderless mystery?
3. As children, Landon and her sisters, Leyna and Lacey, loved their uncommon names. Is there something noticeably distinctive about you? Do you like it or try to downplay it?
4. Anna's encouragement has played a large part in helping Landon find her way to faith and begin maturing in that faith. Do you have an Anna in your life? Are you an Anna to someone else?
5. Landon must choose between succeeding at school and supporting her friend. She frames the decision in the negative: failing her course or failing her friend. Is it easier for you to break down a hard choice by contrasting what could be gained or what it could cost?
6. People often say, "You can't go home again." In what ways is that true? In what ways is it not?
7. Landon sees her restoration from her traumatic past as "I am healed. I'm being healed. I will be healed." In what ways do you see progressions like this in your life or in those around you?
8. Landon thinks if Bobby can get used to her presence it might help him lay his past hurts to rest. And she hopes time spent in her hometown will make it easier to be back. In what ways does repeated exposure to a negative stimulus reduce its effect? How might this be a good thing? How not?
9. Misfits and the wounded seem drawn to Anna. She can't fix their problems but she shows them love and dignity. Do you recall a time when someone showed extra kindness to you?
10. In her distress, Anna the helper walls herself off from the help of her friends. How does a person reach out to a friend who's raising barriers? When is it wise to respect their distance, and when do we need to persist?
11. Elva's tirade at Landon reveals more of her own hurt than she knows. If we could stop and think when someone spews vitriol at us, what might we discern about their needs? How might it change our response? How might we create a pause to allow this instead of retaliating?

12. After the barn break-in, Landon is upset and knows she should turn to Scripture and worship but doesn't immediately do it. How often do we try to tough it out on our own instead of turning to the sources of help we know and trust? What are some positive coping mechanisms that can be part of our regular mental self-defence?