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The Girl in His Shadow

Audrey Blake

Discussion Questions

1. Nora is one of only a few women in a field dominated by men. Do you see any parallels between her situation in the 19th century and today?
2. Though she's more qualified, Nora worries about being replaced by Daniel. Have you ever found yourself in a similar situation? What did you do about it?
3. Throughout the story, Nora conducts a series of experiments and independent studies. What was she hoping to learn?
4. Dr. Croft often resorts to disreputable methods of getting subjects, such as paying grave robbers and taking advantage of grieving family members. For him, the ends justify the means. Do you agree with him? To what extent?
5. We get to see 19th century medical techniques through Nora's eyes. Which treatments surprised you the most? Are there any techniques that carried over into modern medicine?
6. Dr. Harry Trimble finds himself in a difficult situation when Dr. Silas Vickery blackmails him into speaking at the trial. Do you think Harry really had a choice in betraying Nora? What would you have done?
7. Compare Daniel's relationship with Mae and his relationship with Nora. How are they different? Are they similar in any way?
8. Daniel comes from an upper-class family while Nora and Harry come from the working class. How does their socioeconomic background affect how they are treated by other people?
9. While Nora originally disliked Daniel, the two eventually grow to love each other. What brought them together, and why?
10. What did you think about Nora's decision to speak up for herself, though it results in public disgrace and punishment?



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About the Author

Audrey Blake has a split personality--because she is the creative alter ego of writing duo Jaima Fixsen and Regina Sirois, two authors who met as finalists of a writing contest and have been writing together happily ever since. They share a love of history, nature, literature and stories of redoubtable women. Both are prairie girls: Jaima hails from Alberta, Canada, and Regina calls the wheatfields of Kansas home.

Via the author's website (<https://www.audreyblakebooks.com/home/about>)

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