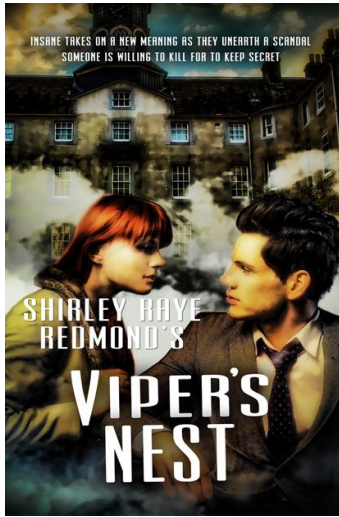


## Discussion Questions

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Also Available in Paperback:

### VIPER'S NEST

Author: Shirley Raye Redmond

ISBN (e): [9781611165012](https://www.isbn-international.org/details/9781611165012)

Imprint: Harbourlight Books

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Pages: 231

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### About the Book

Research assistant Wren Bergschneider and her boss, Professor Allan Partner, find themselves targets of a deranged shooter after they emerge from the basement of an old asylum slated for demolition. As their lives take an unexpected and dangerous turn, both the police and the institution's comptroller want Allan and Wren to cease their research of the historical building.

But the handsome history professor has more at stake than publishing another bestselling biography about Dorothea Dix. He is also quietly investigating the death of his mother, who died under suspicious circumstances while a patient at the mental asylum many years before.

Can they uncover the scandal of the institution before the secrets—or Wren and Allan—are buried forever?

TITLE: Viper's Nest

Discussion:

Question 1: Both Allan and Wren are keeping secrets as the story opens. Do you think they should have confided in one another before visiting the old insane asylum?

Answer 1: Yes, because they because they would have established a bond of trust sooner or no, because that would have eliminated some of the suspense in the story.

Question 2: Wren and Allan are grieving over the loss of loved ones. What are some ways people cope with grief?

Answer 2: Counseling, group therapy, prayer.

Question 3: Do you think Allan's father was right or wrong to institutionalize his wife for severe depression?

Answer 3: Both—she needed medical attention and treatment but the doctors at the overcrowded institution could not provide her with the care she needed.

Question 4: Have you ever wanted to explore an old asylum, sanatorium, or hospital slated for demolition?

Answer 4: Yes or no.

Question 5: In the beginning of the story, Allan does not share Wren's faith in Christ and yet he admires and respects her as a person. Why?

Answer 5: Because she is kind, compassionate, thoughtful, intelligent, a dedicated mother.

Question 6: Dr. Sylvia Leadill considers her medical research the most important thing in the world. This is a form of idolatry. What sorts of "idols" do people worship today?

Answer 6: Their careers, jobs, spouses, children, political ambitions, material possessions.

