THE FIRST CUT
Book Club Questions

1. Why do you think the author uses shifting points of view throughout the book? Did it help you get into the minds of the various characters?

2. Discuss the setting of the novel and its impact on the plot. Would things have been different if this book was set in the United States instead of Scotland? If so, how?

3. What did you think about Darby's scheme to work behind Terrence's back? What motivated her to strike out on her own?

4. Anne's desire to keep herself and the baby safe seems to conflict with her need to take action. Did you think she made the right decisions? If not, why not? Would you have done something differently?

5. What were some of the red herrings in the novel? Were there characters you suspected before the truth was unveiled?

6. Describe the author's writing style. How did you feel about the development of the characters of both the main and secondary characters? Were you able to picture them in your head, and did you think they acted consistently with their personalities?

7. What did you think about the development of the various characters on Terrence's team? Did you get a sense of their varying degrees of loyalty? What do you think drove each of them?

8. What are your thoughts about the father son relationships within the Von Zandt family? What do you believe causes different people in the same family to develop different moral compasses?

9. Did you agree with Terrence's decisions regarding his relationship with Anne? How could he have handled things differently?

10. What do you think motivated Walter Von Zandt to become the man he did? Do you think he could have been different given different circumstances?

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