

DEADLY TRESPASS by Sandra Neily **QUESTIONS???** for Book Clubs and Readers

- ◆ When did you know the narrator was a woman? What gave her gender away? Did it matter if you didn't know right away? Why did the author make this choice?
- ◆ Sandy said, "The hardest part (after a career in conservation) was learning how to write a story that wasn't preachy, that just might be compelling entertainment. It was hard work to harness larger themes so the story and characters came first." How'd she do?
- ◆ What is Patton's relationship to the natural world? What events disclose or deepen this relationship? Does Patton grow or change during the novel?
- ◆ Patton's game warden friend, Moz, leads a conflicted life between his Penobscot Nation roots and his game warden profession. Have you had to navigate a conflict like this? Your coping solutions?
- ◆ The author does not bring Patton and Moz together despite their attraction. Why?
- ◆ *Deadly Trespass* takes place in a hunting and fishing world that may not be familiar to some readers. Did the story's treatment of this world challenge or surprise you in some way?
- ◆ If you are more familiar with a sporting world, did she help or hurt people's understanding of it?
- ◆ Pock's a dog but an important character. What does he add beyond moving the plot forward?
- ◆ The intern reporter, Ian, is a foil and contrast for Patton. What are the urban and rural tensions? The tensions between technology and a more primitive world?
- ◆ Some early readers thought Patton might not be "likeable" enough, but Sandy decided to keep most of her protagonist's rough edges. Why do you think she made that choice?
- ◆ Do you have a special "wild" or wild-feeling place that is at risk? What forces are at work there?
- ◆ Patton accepts her law-breaking role as she frees the wolves. Can you imagine a situation where you would step outside the law to defend something?
- ◆ Do you agree or disagree with Patton when she says, "...wild animal health depends on our setting up the outdoors as a zoo—a zoo without bars. I know it's a contradiction, but today no animal can be free until we accept responsibility for its freedom. I don't care if you crate it up and ship it to Yellowstone, dismantle dams so fish can swim upriver, or pass laws that stop people hunting species into extinction. Human hands are all over wild, but then we have to step back and let wild ones be what they are"

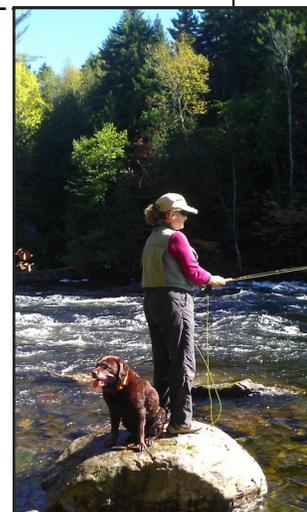
For fun or just extra credit, what would you do if someone sent you a belly fat book? I'd love to know, so send an email. About anything you'd like to say or suggest.

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About MY MARKETING DEPARTMENT OF ... ONE. Now you might know I'm on a conservation & love-all-dogs ("even bad dogs") mission. But my small publisher does no marketing. Will you help *Deadly Trespass* find its readers?

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SKYPING! I'm happy to arrange book club or event e-visits. 207-712-7529 or sdougan@gmail.com



Watch Sandy & Raven "discuss" fishing: <https://youtu.be/NKvkyeDsy9g>
Here's the video book trailer: <http://bit.ly/2nsvKB0>

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!