

Starbuck, Nantucket Redemption

Book Club Discussion Guide/Questions

Peter Bois is one of the wealthiest men on Nantucket but far from successful; his business is being picketed for polluting the oceans, his wife wants a divorce, and his best friend is dead. But fate has plans for him.

On a picnic at the beach with his alienated family, Peter is caught up in a riptide and transported back to the early 19th-century as a greenhand on a whaleship, clueless to where he is and ignorant to what is expected of him. Struggling to accept his new reality, he must confront the man he is and come to grips with life nearly two hundred years in the past as the ship pursues whales and battles storms thousands of miles out to sea.

His only help? A crewman who looks and acts just like his dead best friend.

Struggling to accept his new reality, he must confront the man he is and figure out how to get back to his own time and back to where he can right his many wrongs.

Discussion Questions

- How does the beginning of the novel set the tone for the rest of the story?
- What was your initial reaction to the book? Did it hook you immediately, or take some time to get into?
- What was your favorite part of the book?
- His best friend, Jack, died while saving Peter from drowning. How did his death impact Peter? How do you think Peter would have been different if Jack had lived?
- Why do you think the author used time travel and 19th century whaling as the setting for the second act?
- What do you think Peter learned about whaling that he could see in himself and in his business, Shimmo Plastics?
- What do you think was driving Peter to succeed on the Paragon?

- Were there any quotes or passages within the story that stood out to you?
- How did Peter change throughout the story? Did your opinion of him change?
- If you could ask Peter any question, what would it be?
- Which character did you relate to the most, and what was it about them that you connected with?
- How did you feel about the ending? What did you like, what did you not like, and what do you wish had been different?
- Did the story change your opinion or perspective about anything? Do you feel different now than you did before you read it?
- Does the book remind you of any other writers or novels you've read?
- Pretend you're the author's editor. What notes would you give them?
- If the book were being adapted into a movie, who would you want to see play what parts? What changes would you make to the storyline?
- Can you see a sequel to this story? If so, what would you like to see happen?