

Discussion Questions for *The Face of a Stranger* by Anne Perry

1. Did you like the book? If so, why? If not, why not?
2. Did you like the characters? Did you find them believable? What do you think of Monk? Of Hester Latterly?
3. Did you find the dialog in the story realistic?
4. What did you think of the plot line development? How credible did the author make the plot? Did the plot take turns you did not expect, or did you find it predictable?
5. Did you feel that the author parceled out the details of Monk's life in a suspenseful way, or did you feel confused about what was going on?
6. Did the author convey the era well? Did it feel like the author did her homework? Were the details unobtrusive or jarring? For example, she slipped in the year in the following exchange, which takes place after Monk has awoken in the hospital:

“How long have I been here?” Monk asked. “I’ve lost count of time.” It sounded reasonable enough; anyone ill might do that.

“Over three weeks – it’s the thirty-first of July – 1856,” [Runcorn] added with a touch of sarcasm.

7. The writer has a very descriptive style. Did you enjoy the period language and terms or find them distracting? For example, she explains that police were called “Peelers” because Sir Robert Peel created the Metropolitan Police Force.
8. What were some of the constraints placed on women in the Victorian era that Hester Latterly has to deal with? Do any of those same constraints exist today?
9. Any comments about the way the book ended?
10. Do you want to read the next book in the series?
11. Are there any questions you would like to ask?