



Discussion Questions

Weight Of Silence by Heather Gudenkauf

1. Antonia describes herself as a bad mother while Louis reassures her she's a good one. What supports each of their beliefs?
2. What ethical or moral boundaries, if any, did Louis cross as a deputy sheriff during the investigation?
3. Can Ben and Calli break the cycle of abuse? What signs point to their future outcomes?
4. How does the loss of Antonia's mother shape her life and parenting decisions?
5. How does Martin Gregory's response to Petra's assault fit into his belief system about restraint and order?
6. Why did the author use different narrative styles for each character? How did this affect your reading experience?
7. What does the title *The Weight of Silence* mean in the context of each main character's story?

8. What did Toni mean when she said the woods "sent you back to me"?
9. Why did Martin and Fielda move from Willow Creek to a farm after Petra's trauma?
10. What makes Calli and Petra kindred spirits? Do you believe their friendship will last?

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