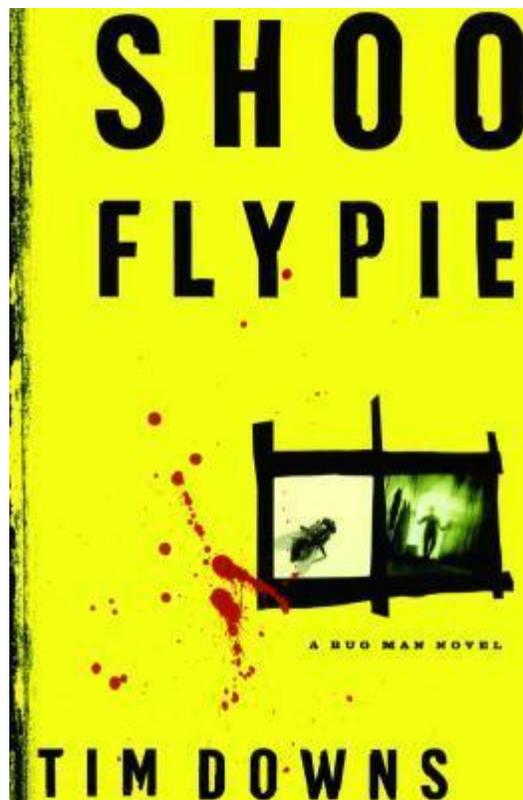


Book Discussion Guide for Shoofly Pie

By Bryon Kacprzyk

Shoofly Pie was written by Tim Downs. Mr. Downs is an author, speaker, and a communication consultant. After he graduated from college he created a daily comic strip and went on to write nine novels in the mystery/suspense genre starting with *Shoofly Pie* in 2003, which is the beginning of a three book series, *A Bug Man Novel*. The book was published by Howard Publishing Co., Inc.



In a small country town located somewhere in North Carolina, Kathryn Guilford gets news that one of her close friends has committed suicide. Kathryn doesn't believe the news that Jimmy killed himself and decides to hire a Forensic Entomologist to help her discover the truth. She is introduced to a new world that involves flesh eating flies that she has never experienced before.

During her journey, information surfaces which leads her to a dangerous end. Will the insects mentioned, the ones she has most fear of, save her as she discovers the truth?

Discussion Guide

1. In Cary, North Carolina, April 21, 1999, Dr. Nick Polchak responded to a scene to investigate a murder. What can we learn about Dr. Polchak at the very beginning?
2. Throughout the book, many insects were introduced and described. Were they described accurately? How was each insect used later on to solve the mystery and save the characters?
3. Do you think the small town had a role in keeping the death of Jimmy a secret? This was a small town with only a sheriff and a deputy. Do you think all the townspeople knew?
4. What was the significance of the Methodist Pastor that paid a visit to Dr. Polchak? Since he was only mentioned a couple of times, did it play a factor in the storyline?
5. Why was Nick in the small town? How does that portray entomologists? Is it an accurate depiction? How would the reader describe Dr. Polchak and his assistant?
6. The story ended with a burned 1964 Dodge Dart that had thousands of maggots feeding on a bloated figure with a sheriff's badge. What does this mean? Wasn't this Nick's car? Whose body do you think it is? Or, is it just the beginning of another story?