

YOU ARE NOW UNDER QUARANTINE.

About the Book

In this spine-tingling first book of the Dark Matter Trilogy, a deadly epidemic sweeps the country. Twelve-year-old Callie might have been one of the first to survive the disease, but unfortunately, she didn't survive the so-called treatment. Kidnapped and experimented upon at a secret lab, Callie breaks free of her prison, unleashing a wave of destruction.

Meanwhile, Callie's older brother, Kai, is looking for her. And his smart new friend Shay—the last person to see Callie alive—may hold the key to uncovering what truly happened.

Shay and Kai can't outrun the epidemic. Can they survive it? Can they stop it?



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About the Author



Teri Terry is the award-winning author of several books, including the Slated trilogy and *The Book of Lies*. She has been published in the US, Germany, Australia, Canada, and France. Teri lives in England.

Discussion Questions

1. Shay sees Callie about a year before Callie is taken and ultimately murdered. Do you think the sighting is suspicious? Should Shay feel guilty for not reporting the incident when it happened? Why or why not?
2. Why does Kai believe Callie is alive? Does he have a reason to believe so—other than hope?
3. Describe Kai's relationship with his sister, Callie. Do you think Kai can continue to have a relationship with her in the future?
4. Survivors of the flu appear to be committing suicide after discovering that they have mysterious abilities. When their deaths aren't the result of suicide, why are they dying?
5. Why does Shay suggest she accompany Kai to Edinburgh? What greater, unexpected implications does this trip end up having for Shay?
6. Why do you think Kai didn't tell Shay that his stepfather is Callie's birth father? Why can't Callie remember that he's her father?
7. Do you have a theory about why only dying people can see Callie? How does this realization affect Callie's resolve to find Dr. 1?
8. Describe the evolution of Shay's photographic memory. How does it change when she gets the flu? How does it become useful throughout the rest of the book?
9. Discuss how Shay and Kai's relationship changes before and after she recovers from the Aberdeen flu.
10. Why do you think Duncan gives up the last moments of his life for Shay? How do his actions affect Shay's mindset going forward?
11. When Shay finally tells Kai that Callie is the one who saved them from the Special Alternatives Regiment (SAR) and that her ghostly presence has been with them ever since, what is Kai's reaction? Is it predictable? How does the revelation affect Shay and Kai's relationship?
12. How do Callie and Shay work together as a team to keep themselves and Kai safe? How does this reliance on each other become an issue when they are separated? How does it become important as they get closer to finding Dr. 1?
13. What is Iona's role in the story?
14. Although Callie has the inclination to leave and find Dr. 1 on her own, why does she stay with Shay and Kai? What is her motivation to find out how the epidemic started?
15. What horrifying realization does Shay come to when she looks more closely at the map and sees how the flu is spreading? How are her future actions influenced by this realization?
16. Discuss some of the larger themes of this book: How do people claim or evade responsibility for their actions?
17. An experiment with antimatter goes very wrong in this story. Do you find yourself worrying about the advances we as a society make in science and math and what harm they might cause one day? How did the scientists in *Contagion* rationalize using human test subjects? Does the end always justify the means?
18. What do you predict will happen in *Deception*, book #2 of the Dark Matter Trilogy? What loose ends still need tying up? What complications do you foresee?