

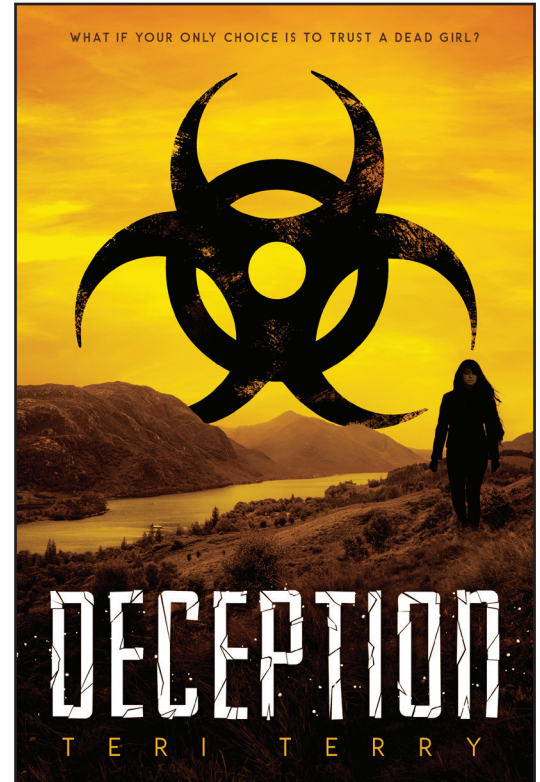
# YOUR ONLY HOPE IS A DEAD GIRL.

## About the Book

Shay and Kai will need every ounce of their wits to survive Dr. Cross's sinister plots in this thrill-a-minute sequel to *Contagion*, book two in the Dark Matter Trilogy.

Believing that she's a Typhoid Mary for the epidemic sweeping the country, Shay surrenders herself to the army and becomes an unwilling test subject in the hunt for a cure. When her laboratory prison is attacked, Shay escapes with the help of Dr. Alex Cross—Callie's father, Kai's hated stepfather, and leader of the mysterious and brutal Multiverse cult.

Meanwhile, infection continues to spread in Callie's wake—the real carrier of the epidemic—and a heartbroken Kai teams up with other survivors in a race to rescue Shay before it's too late.



978-1-62354-106-4 HC  
E-book editions available

## 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. Read aloud the epigraph from the Multiverse Manifesto. ("The stages of deception . . . it's all a matter of perspective.") Do you agree? Why or why not?
2. This book is narrated from three points of view: Kai, Shay, and Callie. Why do you think the author chose to start the book from Callie's perspective? Which narrator would you choose to start this book?
3. Why didn't Callie tell Shay she was the real carrier?
4. The first superhuman ability Shay demonstrates to her captors is the ability to spot lies. In combination with the book's title, what sort of tone does this set for the rest of the book?
5. Kai communicates with Shay's friend Iona through a draft post in the back end of a blogging site. Is this a reasonably secure method of communication? What alternatives are theoretically available to them?
6. How does Callie describe the experience of being a ghost? What sensations and abilities are available to her?
7. Why do you think Bobby knocks on the door of the pub before smashing the window with a brick?
8. Read through the emergency radio broadcast in Chapter 7. What priorities do you think this message reflects? Would this message have assuaged or exacerbated panic in the quarantine zone?
9. Discuss the forced tattooing of several characters in Chapter 9. Is it ever acceptable to modify a person's body without their consent? If yes, where do you draw the line? Why do you think the author doesn't specify what the tattoo looks like?
10. Why do you think everyone at the border camp is so callous about Jacob and Adriana's fate and Bobby's attempts to console and protect them?
11. On their first night in the border camp, Kai wonders, ". . . if the authorities are burning survivors, are they creating more Callies?" What do you think?
12. Bobby plans to take some photos of the camp and smuggle them out with Kai, saying, "Show people what is happening here, and maybe it will help." Do you think Bobby is right, or is this an unrealistic hope?
13. What do you think of Callie's decision to kill one of the men hunting for Kai? What would you do in her place?
14. Pubs play an important role in Kai's journey across the UK. Why is that? How do you think this book would change if it were set in the United States, where none of the narrating characters are of legal drinking age?
15. What are your first impressions of Freja after she meets Callie and Kai? Do you think teaming up is the right choice?
16. Groups of survivors have two modes of communication available: verbal and psychic. What are the benefits and drawbacks of each? Would you want to be able to communicate mind-to-mind? Why or why not?
17. How do Callie's descriptions of her plans for Dr. 1 change throughout the book? What do you think of this change?
18. There are a series of dramatic revelations at the end of the book around memory, identity, and family. How do these revelations relate to *Deception's* other themes (truth, trust, belonging, safety, etc.)?
19. Why did Dr. Cross create the Aberdeen Flu?
20. Do you think Shay makes the right decision in Chapter 35? Why do you think this chapter is narrated by Kai?