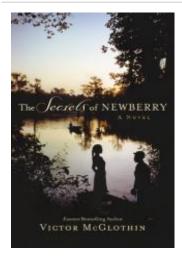
# ReadingGroupGuides

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## **The Secrets of Newberry**

by Victor McGlothin



#### About the Book

Two lifelong friends are about to discover the hard side of life in The Big Easy after a heinous crime is committed? **The Secrets of Newberry** 1950s New Orleans couldn't be sweeter for Ivory "Bones" Arcineaux and Hampton Bynote. Friends since meeting at an illegal gambling house outside Newberry, Louisiana, they indulge themselves with all the fine women, good food, and wild nights they can handle. All seems good in N'awlins --- especially for Hampton, who plans to make a clean break from riotous living after falling for the woman of his dreams, classy Magnolia Holiday.

### **Discussion Guide**

- 1. What did you enjoy/despise about Ivory ?Bones? Arcineaux?s character?
- 2. Did Hampton become a better man because of his relationship with Bones? Why or why not?
- 3. Which secret in the story was the most compelling? Why?
- 4. How did you feel about Pearl Lee Baptiste and her longterm affair with Trotter Delacroix?
- 5. Do you think Trotter was responsible for killing Toussaint Baptiste?
- 6. Was Mr. Ransom Delacroix responsible for the death of Hampton?s father?
- 7. Was Magnolia justified in killing the priest, Father O?Leary? Why or why not?
- 8. What did you think of plantation justice after learning about Sadie?s body planted underneath Pearl Lee?s floor?

9. Did Pearl Lee treasure her love for Trotter more than the opportunity to start over with Hampton and Magnolia?

**10.** What did you think of Bones?s plan to murder several men, implicate Hampton, then get Detective Mouton to help carry it out?

11. Why do you think Odessa, Janeen, and Joyce all kept quiet about the priest?

12. Should Hampton have taken Magnolia away from the plantation after his release from prison?

13. Do you believe that Bones had to die in order for Hampton?s family to survive?

14. What was behind Detective Cunningham?s decision to let Hampton go?

15. Is protecting some secrets worth dying for? Are any worth killing to keep?

**16.** If you were fi lming this movie, who would you cast as Hampton, Magnolia, Bones, Pearl Lee, Toussaint, Detective Mouton, and Trotter?

#### **Author Bio**

Victor McGlothin nearly forfeited an athletic scholarship to college due to poor reading skills. His desire to overcome that obstacle has evolved into a joy in sharing the written word through passionate tales of suspense and drama. Victor is a former bank vice president and lives in the Dallas area with his wife and two sons.

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