

Discussion Questions for

STRUNG

(Book 1)

- 1) When asked about his motivation and inspiration for the *Strung* series, Per Jacobsen usually answers that they're his 'book version' of an action movie and that he wanted the stories to play visually like a movie inside the reader's head. Do you think he succeeded in doing so? Why/why not?
- 2) There isn't a lot of description of the physical appearances of the characters compared to the descriptions of the environment they're in. Why do you think that is?
- 3) The events in the book affect a lot of people ... so why is the story only seen from Randall's point of view?
- 4) The story, especially book 1, doesn't give a lot of information about what's actually going on. Why do you think that is?
- 5) It's no secret that most writers spend more time contemplating the first and the last sentences of their book than anything else in it. With that in mind, why do you think Per Jacobsen choose to end *Strung* with "*And then the moment is over*"?
- 6) If you've read book 2, you'll know, of course, but if not, it might be interesting to consider: Did Randall do the right thing?
- 7) And a follow-up: Would you have done the same in Randall's shoes?
- 8) Randall and Tommy both have their flaws, and both have a desire to change something about themselves. What do they want to change—and do any of them succeed?
- 9) Obviously, the relationship between Randall and Tommy changes throughout the story. But how about the relationship between Randall and David?
- 10) And the ten-million-dollar question: What the heck happened?