

Discussion Questions for *Trapped* by Karen Tintori

1. Did you like the book? If yes, why? If no, why not?
2. Did you know anything about the Cherry Mine Disaster before reading the book? Did you learn anything new?
3. How did you find the pace of the book? Did the author's method of unfolding the events make you feel you were living through the disaster?
4. Why do you think the 20 men who survived held on for as long as they did? Was it just luck or did the personalities within the group make a difference?
5. Did ignorance of or prejudice against the miners who did not speak English play a part in the tragedy?
6. Does anyone have a personal story connected to the disaster to share? Has anyone ever worked in a mine?
7. Were you surprised by anything that you learned from this book?
8. Did the book trigger any emotions while you were reading it?
9. What do you think motivates people to endanger their lives to save others?
10. Do you believe the mine management was at fault for the disaster? What factors worked to create the tragedy?
11. Does this book relate in any way to the current state of the world and working conditions?
12. Do you have unanswered questions? If the author were here, what would you ask her?
13. Are there any additional comments you would like to share?