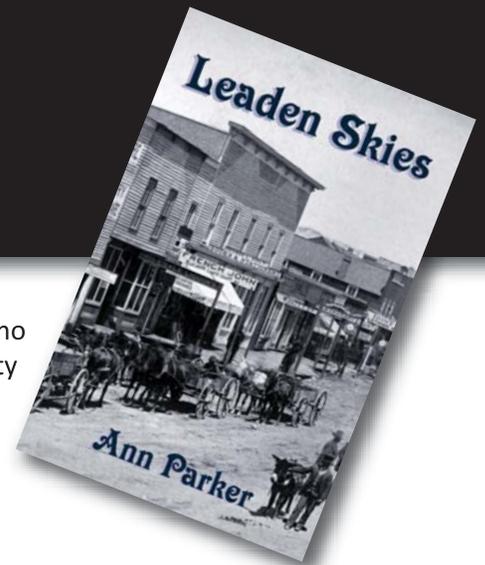


# Leaden Skies Reader Questions

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1. The main character, Inez Stannert, owns a saloon in Leadville, Colorado. Who is her partner? When does the story take place? What is the primary activity in Leadville of the times?
2. Who is Miss Flo? How does Inez know her?
3. What is Flo's relationship to Lizzie? How do they both meet Cecil Farnsworth?
4. Who are the important visitors to Leadville at the beginning of the story?
5. What is the first real crisis in the story and how does it impact Inez and Flo and their future relationship?
6. Who is the Reverend Sands? Why does he have a problem with Mark Stannert? Describe the problem, and why it is particularly challenging to Inez.
7. What is a grass widow?
8. Who is Reuben and why is he in hiding? Where did he meet Zelda?
9. What is Zelda's new occupation?
10. When Inez visits Wm. V. Casey, what does she discuss with him? Who does she meet there as she is leaving his office? Describe this person and their dress.
11. Who is The Hatchet? What motivates his actions?
12. What is Flo's big secret? How does Inez discover it?
13. Where does Inez meet Lucretia Wesley? Who is her son, and what are Mrs. Wesley's goals for him? Do you like him?
14. Why does Zelda go to Flo's? What happens to Lizzie while she is there? Why is this bad for Zelda, and what does she do as a result?
15. What is the damning information that gets young Mr. Wesley into "a big pickle"? Who is the source of this information?
16. Who are the Celestials and how do they relate to the mining industry?
17. Of what religion is the cook at the saloon and why is this pivotal to the mystery plot?
18. How does Cecil Farnsworth provide clues about the villain and crime?
19. What is the 4th estate? How did the expression arise?
20. Who challenges Jed Elliston to a pistol duel and why? Who wins the duel?
21. Who is one of the real, but surprise, villains in the story?
22. What happens to Inez's piano? Why is this yet another crisis?
23. What do you think of the ending to the story? What do you think will happen next?

