



READING GUIDE

March, 2025

Ripper

Shelley Burr

In short

A propulsive, richly layered crime thriller from the internationally acclaimed, award-winning author.

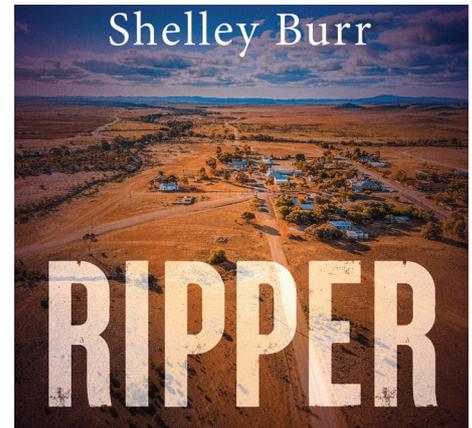
Synopsis

Gemma Guillory knows her once-charming town is now remembered for one reason, and one reason only. That three innocent people died. That the last stop on the Rainier Ripper's trail of death seventeen years ago was her innocuous little teashop. She knows that the consequences of catching the Ripper still haunt her police officer husband and their marriage to this day, and that some of her neighbours are desperate - desperate enough to welcome a dark tourism company keen to cash in on Rainier's reputation as the murder town.

When the tour guide is killed by a Ripper copycat on Gemma's doorstep, the unease that has lurked quietly in the original killer's wake turns to foreboding, and she's drawn into the investigation. Unbeknownst to her, so is a prisoner named Lane Holland. Gemma knows her town. She knows her people. Doesn't she?

Discussion points for *Ripper*

1. How does the small-town setting of Rainier influence the story? In what ways does it contribute to the atmosphere and the characters' relationships?
2. The concept of dark tourism is central to the plot. What are your thoughts on this phenomenon? How does it affect the town and its residents?
3. How does Burr build suspense throughout the novel? Were there any twists that surprised you, and how did they affect your understanding of the characters?
4. If you were in Gemma's position, how would you handle the challenges she faces? What would you do differently, if anything?



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