



# *Crest* (Ondine Quartet Book 3)

by Emma Raveling

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Trust is an important theme throughout *Crest* - who to trust, how much to trust, how to trust, etc. Find examples of this theme and how it affects the story. What does trust mean to each character?
2. Kendra refers to her Virtue as “a magical lie detector”. Do you think using her Empath on others is an invasion of privacy or a justifiable means to gather information and potentially save lives? Kendra also says that “Empaths learned about the lies people hid and the depravity they were capable of at a very early age.” Do you think this is a hindrance or a help (or both) to Empaths? Why?

3. Helene Bessette is rarely seen without her camera. Why do you think she chooses to view the world through her lens? What does this say about her? Have you ever chosen to hide behind something (literal or metaphorical) instead of facing the reality in front of you?

4. After Julian and Kendra argue, she says, “I didn’t want to lose him. But I’d rather have him hate me for the rest of my life than lie to him about something so important.” Do you agree with this sentiment? Have you ever found yourself in a similar situation?

5. Consider this quote:

“Escaping a cage didn’t mean you were no longer imprisoned.”- Kendra

What do you think Kendra means by this? How does this sentiment relate to different characters in *Crest*? Have you ever felt this way?

6. When Kendra is tested by Original Magic, there are no exhausting physical or intellectual test, she must simply tell the truth. Why does Original Magic choose to test ondines this way? What can be learned by such a test? What does Original Magic learn about Kendra?

7. Instead of marrying someone she doesn’t love, Renee chooses to return to the ocean and forget her human life. Kendra believes that staying alive and taking care of one’s responsibilities is more important than love...who do you agree with? What do their beliefs say about each ondine?

8. Julian spends much of *Crest* angry, wanting to be free, and at opposition with the selkies. Do you think his situation is merely a result of his rejected feelings for and jealousy over Kendra or is there more to it than that? What do his actions and words really say about Julian?

9. Consider this quote:

“In the end, great evil and great good stem from one source. Our desire to validate who we are.”- Nexa

Find examples of how this sentiment is reflected in the actions of various characters in *Crest*. How has this notion been reflected in you?

10. Kendra’s mother raised her to be a warrior and didn’t shower Kendra with affection or praise, yet the more Kendra learns about Naida and the war, the more she understands her mother’s choices. How did this childhood and Naida’s actions both positively and negatively affect Kendra and the person she has become?

11. Kendra tells Julian “I make my own future.” What does she mean by this? In what ways does she make her own future in *Crest*? In what ways do other characters make their futures? How do you make yours?

12. Why is it so important to Chloe and Amber to participate in the ondine training program? What are they trying to prove and to whom? What does this say about them?

13. Think about this quote:

“Meaning exists in context.”- Kendra

What do you think Kendra means by this? Can you find examples of where this sentiment is reflected in *Crest*? How does this idea reflect in your life?

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