



THE PALE-FACED LIE

A TRUE STORY

BY DAVID CROW

“Crow’s memoir is cinematically gripping. . . . An extraordinary remembrance that’s both gut-wrenching and inspiring.”

Kirkus Reviews

SUGGESTED BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

1. Share a favorite quote or passage from *The Pale-Faced Lie*. Why does the quote or passage stand out for you?
2. Did reading this book change your perspective about Native American matters, domestic violence, the role of parents, or self-determination?
3. Which one of the four Crow siblings would you most like to meet? What would you say to him or her?
4. Although David Crow has received a lot of praise, he has also received a good deal of criticism about the choices he made as a youth and as a young adult. Why do you think the author chose to open himself up to scrutiny by telling his story?
5. If you had the chance to ask David one question, what would it be?
6. Reading and running were two activities that helped David cope with the mistreatment he suffered at home and in the community. How do you think those activities helped him as a youth? How did they help him become a successful adult?
7. David had several angels along the way—Evelyn, Rex Kontz, Chauncey Ford, Herm Davis, Tom Coleman, and Randy Russell. Did the assistance provided by one of those people especially resonate with you? If so, why?
8. David writes, “But no tie is as strong as family, making it the hardest one to break.” What does that mean to you?
9. David’s abusive father, Thurston, was occasionally kind and supportive. How do you think those rare moments affected David?
10. Did reading the book have an impact on your feelings or relationships? If so, how?

11. David has been asked why it took him so long to walk away from his parents. Do you have thoughts on this topic?
12. Some readers have asked David why it was so difficult for him to do the right thing when he knew some of his actions were wrong. Why do you think this might have been hard for David as a youth and as a young adult?
13. If you could hear this story from another character's point of view, who would you choose?
14. What do you think of the author's use of humor in the book?
15. Were you surprised that David stayed in touch with his father and that he forgave his parents? What do you think of that outcome as it relates to David and as the message that it sends to readers?