

Ten Dead Comedians by Fred Van Lente
Reading Group Discussion Questions

1. *Ten Dead Comedians* is a retelling of the Agatha Christie classic, *And Then There Were None*. Why do you think the author chose this story to adapt into modern day? If you've read the original story, what has changed and what has stayed the same?
2. Why do you think the author chose comedians for this re-imagining of Christie's story?
3. *Ten Dead Comedians* is punctuated with monologues from each of the comedians. How do these monologues influence the story and how the reader views the characters?
4. Most murder mysteries have a "sleuth" character, who works to solve the mystery. Does anyone in *Ten Dead Comedians* fill that role? If not, why do you think the author chose to omit a detective from the narrative?
5. What motivated Dustin Walker to set up this trap? What feelings did his final speech evoke?
6. In the end, Ollie ends up inadvertently saving the day. Do you see this as a redemption of his character?
7. What tropes are present in this book, both from the murder mystery and comedy genres?
8. *Ten Dead Comedians* is full of real-life references to pop culture. Did these references make the characters feel more real?
9. What did you think about the morality of the characters? Why do you think the author made them the way they were? How realistic do you think the portrayals of celebrity life were?
10. Who would you cast in a *Ten Dead Comedians* movie?