

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Much of *Grimdark* revolves around how women were perceived and treated in the past. Did reading Effie and Germaine's story give you a greater insight into the difficult lives women led?
2. What are your thoughts on reincarnation? Do you believe in it? Who would you like to have been in a past life?
3. *Grimdark* is told in three timelines. Do you feel the structure worked well overall? Were you able to follow the story easily? Did the various timelines end in a satisfying manner? Did you enjoy one timeline more than the others?
4. Do you believe in tarot? Have you ever been for a reading? Has anything in the cards come true?
5. Curses are a theme throughout the book. Do you believe in curses, or do you believe they are self-fulfilling?
6. There are a number of themes in the book revolving around familial relationships: mothers and daughters, husbands and wives, and sibling loyalty. Do you think blind loyalty to family is a good quality or damaging?
7. Have you ever been treasure hunting? What would you do if you discovered a fabulous hoard?
8. Grimdark Hall is a fictitious building. Did you enjoy Cló's perceptions of the building? Have you ever walked into an old building and felt its history dripping from the walls?
9. Most gothic or mystery stories have a villain. Did you guess who the villain was early on or did it come as a surprising twist at the end?

10. Did the setting in the fens and the fictitious area of Grimdark contribute to the characters and the plot?
11. *Grimdark* has a blend of historical facts and fiction. While reading, did you feel the portrayal of the past timelines were authentic? Do you research historical elements to see if they were real?