

## 1. OVERALL REFLECTIONS

As I was writing and researching, the image of the pendulum my grandmother held was always with me. It symbolized how I felt very often, clearly how she felt, and perhaps how several of the other characters in the story felt. Above all, it relates to our moral compass, how important that is, and yet how difficult it is to capture and define.

However, it could be a symbol for many other things, which is the beauty of having readers like you who can see layers of meaning I might not have been conscious of.

The process portrayed in *The Pendulum* is intensive, not least as it touches the core of what we consider sacred: our families. I wouldn't be surprised if you had strong emotions after reading it. I experienced everything from sorrow to anger and frustration, but fundamentally I have always believed that it is important for us to face history as truthfully as possible, even if the truth can sometimes be very difficult know. This gives us the chance to learn and grow, and presents every individual with the possibility of transforming the past into a contribution to the future.

I'm excited to hear your perspectives and stories about why learning about history is important to you.

1.1 What are your personal reflections from reading *The Pendulum*?

1.2 What does the term 'pendulum' symbolize to you in this story?