

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Granite Elephants: A High-Tech Murder Mystery

1. What were your impressions of Jury as a man and as a private investigator? What particular PI skills were most striking? Were you surprised at his abilities given his age or did his age make him more effective and add to his command of his career?
2. What did you learn from reading *Granite Elephants*? Did rule-based AI information pique your interest? Did the book make you want to find out more about Jury's profession or about Austin, Texas? Or anything else?
3. Who would you identify as the bad guy in the story and why? Walter? Smets? The "Tough Guys?" The Belgian Banker? All of them?
4. How did the scene in the Belgian cathedral come across? Was it authentic?
5. What were your thoughts about the scene with Stevie and Jon Darlington?
6. Considering what you know about Jury and Janine, do you think they have a chance? If so, why? If not, why?
7. What more would you like to learn about what happened in Galveston?

8. What did you think about the returns from the fictional four-way currency trade? Did seem probable?
9. Did Friar Tuck remind you of anyone you've known in your life? If so, why?
10. What were your feelings about Colonel Henning? Have you ever met a military officer like him? If so, where and what were the circumstances?
11. Do you think Jury and Jerome have a chance to be real friends again? If so, why? If not, why not?
12. How did Janelle's friend Tom the Porsche driver come across?
13. What surprised you most about the book or its characters and plot?
14. What was the most exciting scene or scenes and why?
15. What did you think were the author's greatest skills in telling this story?