**Book-wide questions:**

1. Who are the tragic heroes of *Strange Glow*? What makes them tragic heroes?
2. Could you personally identify with any of the characters in the book?
3. What is the most surprising thing that you learned from the book?
4. Did the book read like a story, a newspaper article, a report, a textbook, or something else? Give some examples to support your contention.
5. Do you think the book delivered on its promise as described in the Preface?
6. Do you think the author’s goal was to share an opinion, explain a topic, dispel a misconception, reduce fear, promote an agenda, or something else? Did the author attain his goal?
7. Was there a part of the book that inspired you in some way? Explain.
8. Was there a part of the book that made you cry?
9. Did this book affect you in either a positive or negative way?
10. Did the book remind you of some other *nonfiction* book that you had read? Some *fiction* book that you had read?
11. Do you think the author presented a biased viewpoint on any of the topics in Part III? If so which chapters were biased and how were they biased?
12. Did you detect any literary parallels between chapters 7 (Hiroshima) and 16 (Fukushima)? Did you detect any scientific parallels between the two chapters?
13. Do you feel better able to make valid decisions about your radiation exposures now that you’ve read the book?

**Chapter-specific questions:**

**Chapter 1:** Do you agree that the invisibility of radiation makes it more frightening?

**Chapter 2:** Is fear of electricity analogous to the fear of radiation, or is it an unfair comparison?

**Chapter 3:** Do you think the Curies had a wanton disregard for the hazards of radioactivity?

**Chapter 4:** What do you think of Ernest Rutherford? Was his fame justified?

**Chapter 5:** Do you think that the radium girls’ health problems from ingested radium could have been foreseen, even with the limited radioactivity knowledge of the day?

**Chapter 6:** Compare and contrast the radiation therapy achievements of Grubbe and Kelly with external and internal irradiation of cancerous tumors, respectively?

**Chapter 7:** Why do you think the chapter is entitled “Location, Location, Location”?

**Chapter 8:** What do you find the most disturbing aspects of radioactive fallout?

**Chapter 9:** Do you think epidemiologists are correct in favoring cohort studies over case-control studies? Would you be able to tell a cohort study from a case-control study based solely on a newspaper report of the findings?

**Chapter 10:** Which radiation effect do you find most worrisome, genetic effects or cancer effects? Do you agree that radiation dose limits should be set based on cancer effects rather than genetic effects?

**Chapter 11:** Does Willie Bragg fit the description of a tragic hero? Why or why not? How does his personality compare with James Watson’s?

**Chapter 12:** Is radon in your home something that you worry about? Why or why not?

**Chapter 13:** Would you ever submit to a full body CT screening if you had no symptoms of disease? Were you surprised about the recent findings about mammogram screening? Why or why not?

**Chapter 14:** Do you take any measures to limit your cell phone radio wave doses?

**Chapter 15:** Do you ever worry that your food is contaminated with manmade radioactivity? Does the fact that food contains natural radioactivity concern you?

**Chapter 16:** Do you think nuclear power plants are safe to live next to?

**Chapter 17:** What do you think the prospects for a terrorist attack with a dirty bomb are? What do you thing about the prospects of terrorists obtaining a nuclear warhead?

**Epilogue:** Do you think there are modern parallels with what happened with N-rays?