



BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

about *The Amaranth Enchantment*

by Julie Berry

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The Amaranth Enchantment is an ideal choice for children's and mother-daughter book clubs. Both moms and daughters will find much to enjoy and discuss in this critically-acclaimed debut fairy tale fantasy novel.

The following questions may be useful in prompting book club discussion. They include a mix of literal and inferential questions to offer all types of readers a point of entry into the story. These questions were prepared by mother-daughter duo Whitney & Miranda Johnson of Massachusetts.

1. What kind of stone is in the ring that Lucinda shows to Prince Gregor?
2. What is the name of the boy who breaks into Lucinda's bedroom?
3. How does Lucinda feel when she is kicked out of her home? How would you feel?
4. How old was Lucinda when her parents died? How old is she now?
5. Why does Aunt despise Lucinda so? Is Lucinda a bad girl or is Aunt unhappy? If so, why is Aunt unhappy?
6. When you feel lonely, what do you think of that makes you feel better? The love of your parents? What else?

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7. Do you think that the woman called “the Amaranth Witch” is really a witch?
8. How does Lucinda feel when she gets dressed up for the first time? How do people react to her? How does their reaction make her feel?
9. Is there anyone in your life that is a fairy godmother to you? Are you a fairy godmother to someone? If you were, what would you do?
10. What does Beryl first offer Lucinda in exchange for the stone?
 - a. Is it a fair trade?
 - b. What does the price Beryl is willing to pay say about how she values herself?
 - c. What would you give up to find a piece of yourself that you had lost?
11. Why doesn't Lucinda tell Prince Gregor that she needs the stone back rather than trying to steal it from him? Do we ever make things more difficult for ourselves than they need to be?
12. When Peter and Lucinda visit Gregor, why is he praying?
13. What is Lucinda willing to give up in order to have her home back?
14. Beryl thinks that she can't go home, but then realizes she can. What does she do that makes going home possible?
15. What kind of bird eats out of the hands of the children in Beryl's world?
16. Have you ever met a person that you knew wasn't a good person? How did you feel? What did you do? How brave was Beryl? Lucinda?
17. Name two ways in which Lucinda is like Cinderella, and two ways in which she is different? (For some clues, re-read page 161.)
18. What do you think of Dog?
19. If you wanted to have a relationship like Beryl and Lucinda have, as a daughter what would you need to do differently? As a mother, what would you need to do?
20. Have you ever seen an amaranth flower? If not, what do you think it might look like?
21. What does *The Amaranth Enchantment* teach about home? What things are essential in order to be happy at home?