

EYES OF THE GODDESS: BOOK TWO OF THE FIANNA CYCLES
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BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is a favorite memory that you have of your mother or father when you were little?
2. How do you think children's upbringings differ from modern society compared to ancient civilizations?
3. If you thought you lost your spouse and were given a second chance, what would you change?
4. Would you want to know the future? What if you knew about it, but couldn't change it?
5. What do you hope happens in the third book? Who is your favorite character?
6. What do you think about time travel? Do you think it's possible, or is actually happening now?
7. What do you think of the different perspectives of reality, as when Ben thinks that dreams are just dreams? Are they actually something much greater, and are there other dimensions to which most of us do not have access?
8. What constitutes loyalty and why is it such a major theme in this book? What about Michaela's loyalty to her family and the betrayals of the sons to their fathers? Is Cairpre wrong for believing in a different god and wanting to force that belief on others? How does that relate to our modern world?
9. What do you think about giving up what appears to be the "right" (or expected or normal) path, and then having a whole new path open up? Is this faith, destiny, following your instincts, or something else? (For example, Michaela inheriting the house in the Catskills, where the new dojo is opened and troubled children will be helped, rather than sticking with the dojo in the city).
10. Do you think the stable sister Shannon is jealous of the dreaming and time traveling that her sister does? She mentions how dull her life seems by comparison, being the anchor, the one who stays put and is always there (loyalty, again). Which sister would you rather be?
11. How do you feel about a woman in a position of real power leading her people? Is age a factor? In societies where childbearing (especially heirs) is prized, and when life span was much shorter, age may be a necessary factor, but what about wisdom and experience – could there be a real leadership role for older women?
12. Do you think that being prepared from birth (including lineage and station) for a particular destiny makes it easier for the person to assume her position, and easier for the people she is to lead to accept her – as in she has the right (lineage, education and training) to lead?
13. How do you feel about a leader also being a warrior, trained physically as well as mentally and emotionally in that track and way of thinking? Do you think that if a leader were trained in another philosophy, it would make a difference to her or her decisions? Would those decisions work (keep her people safe) in a world where other leaders were more or only of the warrior mentality? Is a leader shaped by the times, as well as by their culture, training, and education?
14. What do you think of the concept of royalty? Do you think it is possible (and therefore legitimate) that ancient gods and goddesses really did start (create or give birth to) certain lineages? In this case, wouldn't it make sense to track the lineage through the mother? (Old saying—you always know who the mother is). How did societies change when

patriarchy took over, how were women “protected” to assure a father’s parentage, and how did that concern rule women’s lives?

15. How do you feel about divinity (of any description) being part of a “legitimate lineage” for power? How many cultures have used this measure and belief? Is this belief still alive in certain countries of the world? When did this measure change, and how, or has it changed?
16. What “divinity markers” do we use in our modern world to choose leaders—such as education, upbringing, religious practices and beliefs, “connections,” mastery of money, ease of speaking, “position” in society, appearance, presentation, etc.?