



The Goose Girl

By Shannon Hale

Tome Society It List Discussion Guide



Pre-reading questions:

1. What characteristics do strong leaders need to have in order to be successful?
2. What makes up a person's identity? What makes you who you are?
3. How do you know when you can trust someone? Have you ever been betrayed by someone you thought you could trust? What did you learn from that situation?
4. The Goose Girl is based off of the Grimm Brothers fairy tale that goes by the same name. What other Grimm's stories are you familiar with? Were any of these stories adapted from the original? What changes were made in the adapted versions?
5. The Goose Girl is a fairy tale. What are some common characteristics of fairy tales as a genre?

Post-reading questions:

1. Throughout the story, characters have the gift of "people-speaking," "animal-speaking," and "nature-speaking." Do you think these gifts exist in real life? What other types of "speaking" gifts exist that aren't mentioned in the story? If you could choose one, which one would you choose to have and why?
2. Trust is a major theme throughout the course of the novel, and something that Ani struggles with. What characters was she skeptical of throughout the story that turned out to be trustworthy? What characters did she trust that turned out to be disloyal?
3. Selia thinks that honor and respect should be earned instead of inherited with a title like "crown princess." Do you agree?
4. How does Ani serving as the goose girl help her to be a better leader?
5. In books, we have static and dynamic characters. Static characters stay the same throughout the story, while dynamic characters change from the beginning to the end. How has Ani changed throughout the course of the story?
6. Does The Goose Girl follow typical conventions of a fairy tale?
7. Towards the end of the book, Ani says, "Sometimes it seems my identity is a matter of opinion." What do you think she means by that? Who is Ani?
8. What do you think the book is titled The Goose Girl instead of The Crown Princess? What does the title suggest? Would the meaning of the story change if the title was different??

Post-reading Activities

1. The Goose Girl by Shannon Hale was inspired by the original Grimm Brother's fairy tale. Read the Grimm Brother's version, and create an infographic that compares the differences between the original and the adaptation. Follow the guidelines at tomesociety.org/competitions.html to enter it into the Tome Infographic competition.
2. The Goose Girl by Shannon Hale is essentially a piece of fan fiction - she took an original story and adapted it to make it her own. Write an original piece of fan fiction that includes the characters in The Goose Girl. Follow the guidelines to enter it into the Tome Fan Fiction competition.
3. Ani's search for her identity is one of her biggest struggles throughout the story. Create a piece of fan art that encompasses all aspects of Ani's identity. Consider who she was during her time in Kildenree and who she is now in Bayern. Follow the guidelines to submit it to the Tome Fan Art competition.

More About This Book

- FlipGrid Topic Link: <https://flipgrid.com/3dfa62fd>
- Check out the authors' official websites at: www.shannonhale.com