



When the Sea Turned to Silver

By Grace Lin

Club Tome It List Discussion Guide



Pre-Reading Questions

1. Storytelling is an ancient tradition that is still practiced today. What are some of the stories that have been passed down in your family? How can storytelling help you learn about others?
2. If you could become immortal, would you? Why, or why not?
3. This story is based around legends and myths from Ancient China. What are some of your favorite myths and legends?

Post-Reading Questions

1. Pinmei and Yishan travel on the dangerous journey together. Would Pinmei have gone on the journey alone? Why or why not? How did being together change the journey?
2. Which story in the book is your favorite? What do you like best about it?
3. If you could be any of the magical creatures who would you be? Why? What would you do?
4. There are many friendships throughout the book. Some are new and some are very old. How do friendships help shape the story?
5. Each place that Pinmei and Yishan travel has its own story and set of characters. How do they all tie back into the larger story of Pinmei finding and freeing her grandmother Amah?
6. *Spoiler Alert* How does the emperor become immortal? What is immortality? How do we become immortal?

Post-Reading Activities

1. The author of When the Sea Turned to Silver uses a lot of figurative language in the book. Figurative language includes similes, metaphors, symbolism, onomatopoeia, personification, hyperbole, and idioms. Find an example of each of these in the book.
2. The illustrations in When the Sea Turned to Silver are examples of Chinese folk art. Create a piece of folk art about When the Sea Turned to Silver. Follow the guidelines at tomesociety.org/competitions.html to enter it into the Tome Fan Art competition.

More about this book

- Flipgrid Topic Link: <https://flipgrid.com/d9a77da4>
- Reading Group Choices Discussion Guide: <https://readinggroupchoices.com/books/sea-turned-silver/>
- Book Trailer: <https://youtu.be/EQmHHG5AuS4>
- Author's Official Website: www.gracelinblog.com