

# Discussion Guide

## Wrought of Silver and Ravens

(Of Magic Made, book #1)

By E.J. Kitchens

Thanks for reading *Wrought of Silver and Ravens*! I'm thrilled you're reading it with friends and talking about it, and to make things easier for the latter, I've written a few questions to get the conversation started. I have simple questions (including "getting to know you" questions), deeper questions, and even a few trivia questions. Use what you like and ignore the rest!

### Getting to know you

1. Do you have siblings?
2. Who has the most siblings?
3. If you don't have siblings, are you happy with that or did you always want one or more?
4. If you could be a half-magic, enchanter, non-magic, or sorcerer or raven-eater, which would you be? Why?
5. If you could have one spell, what would it be?

### General book questions

1. How did you like the book? Would you read the next one?
2. Who is your favorite character and why?
3. Who is your favorite Silver Guard?
4. Did you relate to one of the characters above the others? If so, why?
5. The book started as a retelling of "The Twelve Dancing Princesses" set in E.J. Kitchens's larger Magic Collectors story world. Have you read that fairy tale? Did you pick up on the hint of it?

### Deeper discussion questions

1. When we meet Athdar, he is struggling to take care of Prince Xander because Xander is an enchanter and because helping him means risk. Do you like characters like this? How do you handle situations where you're called to help those who may have hurt you or someone you love? Where might helping mean risk to yourself or others you love?
2. Athdar thinks back to what a priest told him about loving everyone as created by the Most High. When you have to make decisions, what do you base those on? Your feelings in the moment? What your parents or a religious leader taught you? Scripture? What you saw in a movie (the character chose mercy or revenge, for instance)? What do you think your choices should be based on?
3. Thea and Ismena both want to protect their sisters and kingdom and make hard choices to do so. Mena's choices nearly get Athdar killed and herself and Thea badly hurt. She thinks she had good reasons for suspecting Athdar, and to some extent, she does. What do you think could have tipped her off to Athdar's innocence?

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4. Princess Ariadne struggles with feeling unloved because of her sister Eva's scorn. Despite that, she is a kind and cheerful girl. Have you experienced scorn? How do you handle it? It is wrong to stick up for yourself? Do you sympathize with characters like Ariadne, dislike them, or want them to change somehow?

5. Because of her mother's illness and nurse's absence, Thea is largely responsible for looking after her sisters. She struggles with knowing when to interfere in their squabbles. What are some good guidelines for being a peacemaker? When is it best to not interfere?

6. Athdar has a naturally quiet personality and has been hurt by loss. That and traditional prejudices lead him to want to keep his distance from Galen, Ayrton, Floraison, and even Murray. Have you ever felt that to be alone is best? Do you think we were made for relationship?

7. Prince Cerav uses a religious tradition of Thea's people—that only the Most High God can perform transformations—to confuse her and try to hurt her faith. When she sees the dragons, she refuses to ignore the challenge to her faith they present, but she also refuses to simply give up her faith. Instead, she fights hard to discover the truth. Have you ever had something you believed challenged? How did you respond? What are resources we can go to when our faith or some other belief is challenged?

### Trivia

1. Who can name the seven sisters in birth order (starting with Thea)?
2. Who can name the Silver Guards?
3. Who has read the other books in The Magic Collectors' story world? What are they? Any guesses on how they all connect?

### Event ideas

Thea's kingdom was inspired (loosely) by Greece and the walled city Dubrovnik (Croatia), and her uncle's kingdom of Lakat by Arabia. Consider serving Greek food (modern or ancient) or Middle Eastern or Mediterranean food. Look up games from Ancient Greece or study what dancing would have looked like then. Greece has many colorful plants in its cities, which Athdar appreciates. Learn about the local flora.

### Fun fact

My parents are geologists, so I grew up with rocks of all kinds all over the house and yard. I have many sitting around my own home. Sometimes, I enjoy just picking up rocks or leaves or flowers and simply studying the beauty and detail of each. The crystal city Weilan gives Thea is based on a lovely chunk of quartz crystals I dug up when "rock hounding" with my parents.

Wrought of Silver and Ravens took nine months from original idea to publication. The year it was published, both of my sisters had babies. I like to say I had a baby too: a book baby.

Thanks for reading and discussing! If you found this guide helpful or want to suggest additional questions that your group enjoyed, you can contact me through my website: <https://www.ejkitchens.com>.