

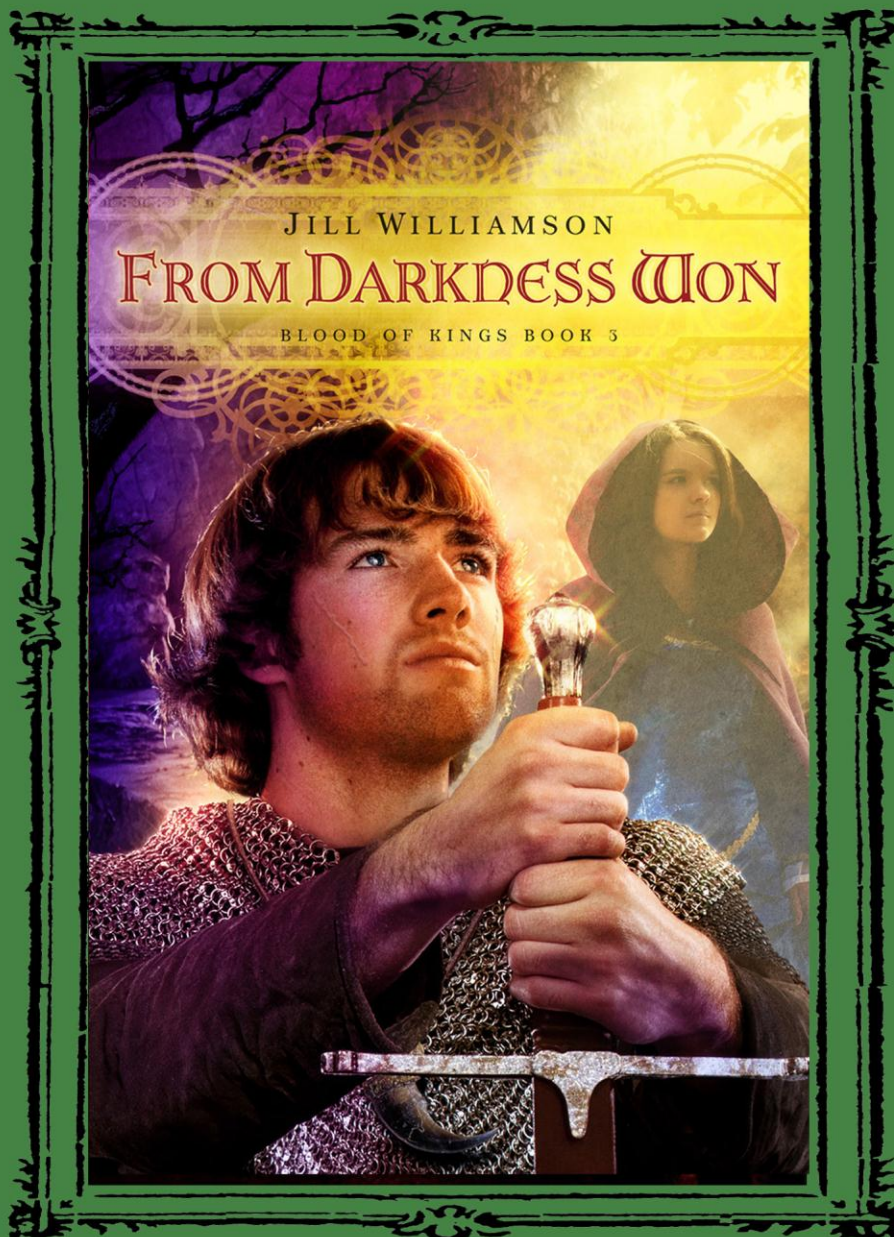
ONE LITERATURE UNIT

A CURRICULUM GUIDE FOR

FROM DARKNESS WON



A MARCHER LORD PRESS CLASSROOM RESOURCE



CREATED BY
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A Curriculum Guide for From Darkness Won by Jill Williamson and Mary Agius
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JILL WILLIAMSON

MARY AGIUS

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

CURRICULUM GUIDE



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☞ Introduction ☞

The purpose of this curriculum guide is to maximize the literary benefits of the book, *From Darkness Won* in a homeschooling format.

Some people are avid readers; others are reluctant. Quite often, if students don't enjoy their required school reading books, their reading desire wanes along with their overall skills. However, given some choice in reading material, a student's desire and abilities can grow. So, if *From Darkness Won* is a book your student would enjoy reading, why not increase the value of that choice with a curriculum guide?

A Student/Teacher Lesson Plan is included that gives a day to day schedule for all reading, writing, and creative assignments. Work done at the specified pace will allow the student to complete all material in 3 ½ weeks. By allowing a couple extra days for additional writing or other projects, a student can finish one book per month. All schedules can be adjusted as needed.

Chapter by Chapter discussion questions can determine your student's reading comprehension and allow parents a barometer to test abilities in this area. Answers to questions can be discussed verbally, written out, or presented to a group of students by way of a book club.

The enclosed bookmarks are designed to be printed on cardstock and written on. This provides a perfect venue for students to note new vocabulary words. A strong vocabulary is an asset at any stage of life, especially as a prerequisite for good writing and SAT and ACT testing. However, it is not just the introduction of these new words but the integration of them in a student's writing and speech that creates the greatest value. In addition, students are assigned the task of utilizing the words in sentences.

By incorporating the discussion questions and the vocabulary assignments, students are asked to encapsulate the main points of the text and its meaning by way of summarizing each chapter, which eventually forms a book summary.

Literary skills for this book focus on theme and characters. Students are asked to evaluate the threads of a predominant theme in the story. Two main characters are compared and contrasted.

The betrothal process and the symbols associated with them are studied in more detail, comparing from the book and present day.

Creative writing and storytelling skills are drawn upon to come up with a poetic song about the life of a character from the story.

Students have their choice of creative arts projects. Either drawing a two-headed hawk that has their own selection of symbols, or a cross stitch tapestry similar to those made by Gypsum in the story.

We pray that the story and the curriculum guide are a blessing to your homeschool family.

Lesson Plan

- DAY #1: Read Chapter 1-3
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #2: Read Chapter 4-6
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #3: Read Chapter 7-9
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #4: Read Chapter 10-12
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #5: Write summary of chapter 1-12 using new vocabulary words. Begin to work on 1 creative assignment.
- DAY #6: Read Chapter 13-15
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #7: Read Chapter 16-18
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #8: Read Chapter 19-21
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #9: Read Chapter 22-24
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme

- DAY #10: Write summary of chapter 13-24 using new vocabulary words. Begin to work on 1 creative assignment.
- DAY #11: Read Chapter 25-27
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #12: Read Chapter 28-30
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #13: Read Chapter 31-33
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #14: Read Chapter 34-36
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #15: Write summary of chapter 25-36 using new vocabulary words. Begin to work on 1 creative assignment.
- DAY #16: Read Chapter 37-39
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #17: Read Chapter 40-42 and Epilogue
Answer comprehension questions
Do vocabulary work
Take notes for character study and theme
- DAY #18: Write summary of chapter 37-End using new vocabulary words.
- DAY #19-20: Finalize all unfinished reading, writing assignments and creative projects.

Comprehension Questions

Prologue

1. Why do you think the deceiver would choose the name Hadad, which is so similar to the royal name Hadar? How is the meaning of the name appropriate for who he is?
2. How is Sidal controlled by Macoun? Why can't he escape?
3. What is Macoun's attitude toward Sidal after he is done with him?

Chapter 1:

1. Why does Achan suspect that the fight is not a training match?
2. What had Achan's intent been in coming to participate with these men? What was the intent of the other men, and what did it have to do with Lady Averella?
3. What is Achan's reaction after the fight? Are the men expecting this?
4. What sentiment does Achan pick up from the villagers after he leaves the castle? How does Bran treat him?
5. What is the irony in the situation facing Bran and Achan?

Chapter 2:

1. As Achan is alone with Gren, what does he consider to be ironic?
2. What feelings about being king does Achan share with Gren?
3. Does Achan expect to love Lady Averella, his betrothed? What is being taught to him about true love?
4. How does Achan feel about little Matthias?
5. What are the differing opinions about how Achan should dress on the battle field?
6. How does Achan feel about wearing one of Lady Averella's dress sleeves around his arm? Why?

Chapter 3:

1. Achan wants to know why just asking the Hadad a question would be perceived as weakness. Sir Eagan states, "Because you reveal he has something you want and that gives him power over you." Do you agree with this?
2. Why do you think Achan pulled Matthias's straw mattress close by? Was this behavior appropriate for a king?

3. Once again Achan feels that he is unable to make his own decisions regarding fighting in battles. Should he be allowed to decide things for himself? Why and why not?
4. What was Achan's reason for running away from Shung in the secret tunnels? Then, when he was lost, he still wouldn't give up. What would you have done?

Chapter 4:

1. Does Sir Rigil have the right to rebuke Vrell?
2. Should Vrell have the right to make her own decisions?
3. Do men today embrace this same code that Jax spoke of—that of being sworn to protect women and children above all? Are women a distraction in an all-man's circle?
4. What does Vrell mean by her comment, "There is no honor in doing nothing?"
5. Vrell says to Gypsum that "Some make an idol out of obedience. Such perfect standards cannot bring you joy at all times." What would make obedience bad?
6. Vrell and Gypsum battle words by quoting from the Book of Life. Is there a winner?
7. Should Gypsum agree to marry Achan if Vrell refuses to?

Chapter 5:

1. Why is Vrell so confused about who she is and where she fits in?
2. When Vrell runs off, she has one plan, but Arman has something entirely different in mind. How do her plans change, and how does she feel about this interruption?
3. Why is Vrell relieved that the severely injured man knows Arman?

Chapter 6:

1. How does Achan and Vrell's meeting again prove to be providence? How does she feel to see him again?
2. Who in this scene knows Vrell as Sparrow, and who knows her as Lady Averella?
3. What is Sir Caleb's method of caring for Achan? Is it more protecting or controlling? What are the goods and bads? What is his biggest concern?
4. Do you think Vrell's perspective on Achan not being committed to Arman is correct?

5. How does Gypsum turn the conversation to teach Vrell a lesson? She accuses Vrell of following her own will first and Arman's second. How do we do this in our relationship with the Lord?
6. Once again Vrell's plans are derailed. What happens this time?

Chapter 7:

1. Why does Achan offer to help Matthias's brother in his love with a woman above his station?
2. How does Achan treat Sir Caleb? Is it justified? What would have been a better method? How does he feel after?
3. Where does the Duchess's lesson in storming take them? What is this place and the two gates symbolic of?

Chapter 8:

1. Why is Vrell frustrated with Gren's plan to steal a horse and escape? Have you ever made plans like this?
2. When Vrell travels with Gren, they end up at Gren and Riga's old house with Harnu, who still wants to marry Gren. Why does Vrell say they are two confused women trying to manipulate their destinies?
3. As Vrell prays about Achan and his relationship with Arman, she hears a response. What is it? What surprises her? How is this still good advice today?
4. When Harnu confesses how poorly he treated Achan, Vrell responds with, "Yes, we all have dust under our beds, do we not?" What does she mean by that? What is Vrell's dust?
5. How does Vrell's night with Gren not turn out as she planned?

Chapter 9:

1. Sir Eagan says that "Every man is a slave to something. Let no one or thing master you but Arman." How is this still true today?
2. Talk about the significance of the meeting that Achan woke up to. Sum up what each knight said. Have you had a "coming-of-age" ceremony? How was yours similar or different?
3. The knights' speech to Achan goes from extolling his virtues and attributes, to offering advice, to sharing stories of their own journey through manhood. Why do you think they do this? Does Achan now think less of them or more?
4. Sir Eagan shares of his biggest failure. Do you think this was hard for him to admit? What is his response when Sir Gavin tries to shift some blame onto the woman involved? Is his perspective valid? And yet, he still says he would not

change his actions? How has Arman worked his mistakes for good? Can you describe a time when the Lord did this in your life?

5. Describe Shung's greatest mistake. Have you ever set out to do the right thing in the wrong way?
6. Why do you think Achan has a soft spot for Matthias?

Chapter 10:

1. Although Vrell is now imprisoned after travelling with Gren against her wishes, what is her perspective? Do you have the same attitude after you've made mistakes, or do you sit and stew over what went wrong?
2. How does Bran see the good in his bad situation to help others?
3. How does Vrell's mother react to her daughter's imprisonment? Does she come across as less than compassionate? Do you agree with her sentiment that if Vrell wanted to act like one of the men, she should get used to being treated like one?
4. What do you think she means about the "other prison" Vrell would be living in when she got home?
5. Macoun Hadar states that "Women don't understand how beauty is more than a pretty face and figure. Men like those things, of course, but most prefer a woman with spirit, who stands for something and is willing to fight for it." Is this true? Get a female and male answer. What is your definition of beauty?

Chapter 11:

1. Explain the spiritual symbolism behind the Hadad and the men that serve this creature being strengthened by his darkness. What about Gâzar, who lives in the Lowerworld?
2. How does this new knowledge of their true enemy help them? How is this enemy greater than Esek or Lord Nathak?
3. When Achan worries that the Hadad may be looking through him, Sir Eagan tells him not to be paranoid, that with loyalty to Arman, this can't happen. How does this compare spiritually?
4. Consider Achan's response when he realizes Lady Gypsum's intentions. How would men and women both benefit from this same sensitivity today?
5. The warrior priest, Toros Ianjo tells Achan that Arman is not opposed to calling us to what we dread. How have you found this to be true in your own life?
6. He continues to state that, "Arman uses change to stir us. Clarify priorities. Supply direction. The battle comes and we face it, for that is where Arman wants us to be. Normal is tedious, Highness. Don't long for blissful lethargy."

Long for change." How has the Lord used change in your life to accomplish such things?

Chapter 12:

1. Inside the Veil, Vrell has a limited knowledge of people and places that are mentioned. Why is this? Why can she hear Achan and her mother but they can't hear her?
2. What was Vrell slandered for, and why is she so offended? What are Lady Fallina's thoughts on Vrell's treatment?
3. What does Poril do to help Gren and Noam? What's his motivation?

Chapter 13:

1. Achan asks Sir Eagan how to forget Vrell, but Eagan tells him that the key is not to forget her but to allow the pain of losing her to heal in time. Do you have a friend from the past that brings such pain? How have you dealt with it?
2. Sir Eagan tells Achan, " 'If' is a word that will steal your soul." What does he mean by that?
3. When Cāan told Achan if he submitted to Him, He would give him the desires of his heart Achan thought it meant Sparrow. How does Sir Eagan respond? Has the Lord left you waiting for the desire of your heart?
4. Achan sits in his tent contemplating why Vrell doesn't want anything to do with him. He lets his mind imagine all sorts of things. How can we as Believers stop ourselves from such mind games?
5. Achan boasts to Lady Gali about Shung's bravery. How is someone else bragging about you always better than you bragging about yourself?
6. Is Toros's perspective on man wanting to control his own life Biblical? In what difficult circumstance have you had to trust the Lord?

Chapter 14:

1. Harnu makes Gren feel inadequate to marry Bran. Do you think his reasoning is correct?
2. Is Harnu being too persistent in seeking after Gren? Are his motives pure? How is she treating him in response to his desires?
3. Vrell is led astray by a false promise from a gowzal. At what point does she realize that following the creature was a bad idea? What keeps her from the darkness of this bird?

Chapter 15:

1. Esek's severed arm, an injury that should have killed him, is miraculously healed by Gâzar. What is this and the three marks on the forehead of Esek and Sir Kenton Biblically symbolic of?
2. When Achan can't find Vrell, he is reminded to ask Arman for help. He seems to be in a habit of forgetting to pray first. Do you have the same bad habit?

Chapter 16:

1. When Vrell's spirit has returned to her body, she finds that she has lost about one year of memory. Think back to what your life was a year ago. Make a list of things that transpired between then and now, things you wouldn't know if your memory was lost. What would it be like to be in the present but think it was a year prior?

Chapter 17:

1. After speaking with Sir Gavin, Achan is relieved that he will not be marrying Lady Averella. What is his intention behind contacting Sparrow? How does his conversation with her go?
2. As Achan stalks off to the campfire, what bad choices does he make to end up under a wagon with a strange woman?
3. What causes him to stop her advances? Is such chivalry to guard a woman's honor still around today?
4. Achan compares the power of water on sand to what two other things? Which did he feel was good, and which made him weak? He states that dying for any cause of Arman's would be worth it. What would you be willing to die for?
5. What is Achan's feelings about having a concubine? How is this influenced by his relationship with Arman? How have such thoughts got him in trouble before?
6. Sir Caleb lists several things that can ensnare a man, but he also states that we should not judge a person by their mistakes. Do you agree with this position? If so, do you think it condones their sin? What does he say it takes to defeat such temptations?

Chapter 18:

1. How does Arman protect Achan's ring around Vrell's neck?

Chapter 19:

1. How does Achan feel when he remembers that Sir Gavin had messaged him the night before but Achan hadn't answered?
2. What is Achan's attitude about Sir Eagan's volunteering for the mission to find and assassinate the Hadad?
3. What is Achan's perspective as he prays for Sparrow?
4. How does the Duchess explain controlling the Tanniyns? How are the Tanniyns being possessed now?
5. How does Shung prove to be a better protector for Achan than he is for himself?

Chapter 20:

1. Is Vrell's lying and deceit to the dungeon guard acceptable? Why or why not? Can you find Biblical grounds for your position?
2. In the same vein, is Vrell right to disobey the men in not staying in the boat? Do the results of her actions justify her disobedience?
3. As Vrell sets out for the tower, she notices injured people. How does she react? Why do you think she does this when she was on a mission? How does she react when she is called Iamos? What are her thoughts on this?

Chapter 21:

1. Why was Achan being inside the black knight's body so dangerous? How does the power affect him? What does it cause him to do? How does he feel about it after he returns to his body? How does just remembering it stir up the emotions again?

Chapter 22:

1. Imagine yourself as Vrell, climbing outside the tower to get into Macoun Hadar's window. How much courage would it take to do such an act? Have you ever been afraid but pushed yourself to do something dangerous anyway?
2. What does Macoun Hadar intend to force Vrell to do to Sir Eagan? Why does he fail? What are Arman's words?

Chapter 23:

1. Lord Nathak said that when you keep company with liars at some point you will be deceived. What does he mean by this? How had he been lied to?
2. What Biblical story is similar to King Axel's mistress giving birth to a son and infuriating Queen Dara?

3. As a young boy, how was Achan protected from harm by Lord Nathak?
4. Is it true that Lord Nathak is only considered a stray by Arman? Why does he feel this way?
5. What happens to Lord Nathak at the end of this chapter?

Chapter 24:

1. Who do the injured people say brought them healing? How is this still true today when people don't give the true God credit?
2. Why is Vrell upset with Gren over her attitude toward Harnu?

Chapter 25:

1. What caused Lord Nathak's green fire ball to fall backward?
2. When Achan talks about facing Lord Nathak again, how does Sir Caleb tell him he will be able to stand against such evil? Why does Achan feel the comments about Arman are too casually thrown around?
3. Have you ever known someone like Kurtz that lives on the edge of greatness only to blow it time and time again? Why is this?
4. Once they are discovered, what would be the wisest thing to be done with the prostitutes and why?
5. How does Achan's encounter with Challa keep coming back up to haunt him?
6. King Axel never told who killed him. Why?
7. How is it possible to still honor and respect those in leadership even when they make mistakes?

Chapter 26:

1. In what ways does a person's mind get twisted in Darkness as he starts to believe things that are not really true? What is that parallel to today?
2. Was it appropriate for Vrell to kiss Bran, the man she thinks she loves?

Chapter 27:

1. How does Cole's humility almost cause him to lose out on a great opportunity?
2. Even though it is within Achan's power to harm Harnu Poe, he does not. When their conversation sours, what holds him back? Was Harnu correct that it was wrong for Achan to force Gren to marry Riga?
3. How has Harnu thought ahead and prepared for Gren? Would he make a good husband for her?

Chapter 28:

1. As the team in the underground tunnels is led to safety by Peripaso, they must hold tightly to the rope in the pitch black dark. They are left to trust and keep walking in darkness, letting the one who knows the way lead them. Was this safe? How is this symbolic of the Christian walk?

Chapter 29:

1. How is Achan's squire training of Cole reminiscent of his own beginning? How would the body of Christ benefit from this method today?
2. Why does Toros say that complete satisfaction only comes from Arman? What does Toros say is wrong with Achan's prayers? Sometimes Achan feels like he's Arman's best friend, other times he feels completely lacking. Why is this? And how is Toros's role similar to the Holy Spirit?

Chapter 30:

1. Does the idea of sliding through a dark, icy tunnel sound like fun to you? What are all the questions that run through Vrell's mind before she descends?
2. Have you experienced a time when your mind imagined all the possible things that could go wrong? Did you give in to the fear or conquer it?

Chapter 31:

1. As Achan arrives in Noiz and hears about the tombs of the kings, he wonders if he will be buried there someday. Then he recalls a different gate than the one protecting Noiz. Which gate is it, and why does it have more value than Edom Gate?

Chapter 32:

1. As Vrell's memory returns, she begins to think about all the times Achan rescued her. Why did she run from such loyalty? Why would she refuse to marry a man like this, especially one who would be king?
2. Sir Rigil is distraught over losing his sword. Why would a material object be so important to him?
3. When Sir Rigil accuses Gren of being argumentative, how does she respond? He tells her she needs a man she can have charge over, with little will of his own. Do you know people like this?
4. When Vrell becomes discouraged in her perspective, Sir Rigil tells her to focus on the joy and light in this world and the hope of their eternal home in Shamayim. How can this advice still apply to Believers today?

5. Vrell confesses to her father, Sir Eagan, that one lie led to so many others and now she feels lost in them. She feared she couldn't find her way back. What does Sir Eagan tell her? Does she follow his advice as she enters the hall to meet Achan?

Chapter 33:

1. What is the swing of Achan's emotions as he digests the knowledge that Vrell Sparrow is Lady Averella? How do his emotions affect his treatment of her? Is he justified?
2. When Vrell confesses her fear and why she ran away in order to avoid being hurt, what is Achan's response? Is his perspective correct?
3. There is a discussion as to whether or not women should be knighted. What is the reasoning? Is it good logic to not do something just because it's never been done?
4. How does Achan comfort Vrell's fear that he will fall for another woman? What does he feel will help him stand against such temptation? What is Vrell's response about her own weakness?

Chapter 34:

1. Vrell talks about the new wall of protocol between her and Achan. In times past they spent significant time alone together. Why was it no longer appropriate?
2. Why does Vrell's father resist her going along but then concede? What are Achan's concerns, and are they valid?
3. Khai's arrogance shines through as he talks to Vrell about being brought back to life because his master cures even death. Is this true? Or is Vrell's comment true that he will still face death someday?

Chapter 35:

1. When Achan stumbles in the tower, Shung tells him to "Let the fear strengthen." What does he mean by this?

Chapter 36:

1. The Duchess tells Achan that she is fighting in the Veil for them. What is the "fighting in the Veil" symbolic of?
2. How was Esek's pride his downfall?

Chapter 37:

1. How is the battle between Achan and Lord Nathak both physical and spiritual?
2. How does Achan call on Arman? And how do his prayers change from petition to praise to worship? What does he bloodvoice the people to ask them to do?
3. When did the battle transition from Achan's to Arman's?

Chapter 38:

1. How is Duchess Amal much like Lady Averella in regards to her not always staying where it is safe?

Chapter 39:

1. Now that Darkness has been banished from Er'Rets, why have some people chosen to go underground or in caves? What could Darkness have done to their minds?
2. As Achan tours the castle that once belonged to his parents, he is met with living arrangements that he does not understand and grows angry about. Is this difference simply a cultural explanation due to social classes? When Achan states that he wants his wife to share his chambers, why is he met with so much resistance?
3. Why does Achan blame his parents for the separate living arrangements? Why is it so important to him not to continue this?

Chapter 40:

1. Gypsum follows the strictest rules for chaperoning her older sister Vrell. What are your own personal convictions regarding mixed company being alone together?

Chapter 41:

1. After having a manhood ceremony of his own, how does Achan continue the tradition with Cole? Why is it important to invest in others lives, as some have done for us?
2. Although awkward, how does Achan handle the conversation with Gren?

Chapter 42:

1. Are all of Vrell's beauty treatments, pomp and pampering, squeezing into clothes that are too tight and too heavy completely necessary? How many of these same traditions do we carry on today? What parts of the wedding ceremony are similar to those of modern day?
2. Kurtz is honored that Achan included him in Cole's manhood ceremony when Gavin left him out of Achan's. What is Achan's perspective on second chances?

Epilogue:

1. What is the tradition of the prince going barefoot in the coronation ceremony?
2. When Achan asks Arman to help him, he is given a promise. What is it?

🌀 Vocabulary Words 🌀

It is recommended that the bookmarks be printed on cardstock and cut apart individually. While the student reads each chapter, he should write out any new or unfamiliar vocabulary words on the lines provided on the bookmark.

After the assigned reading is finished for the day, your student should write out the words from his bookmark, look up their definition, and write that down as well.

Each word should be used in a sentence that pertains to the intended meaning based on the context of the story.

🌀 Literary Analysis 🌀

Theme: The main underlying message of the story

Consider the theme of "REDEMPTION."

1. Look up the various definitions of redemption. Which ones apply in the story? How does redemption pertain to a second chance?
2. As you read, create a list from the book of those whose lives were redeemed/given a second chance. (Look specifically at Chapter 9.)
3. By the end of the book, were these people waiting in hope for redemption or had they received it?
4. What were their lives like before? And after?
5. Who gave them the second chance, or opportunity, to start again?
6. Did each person choose to accept redemption?
7. How is the land of Er'Rets redeemed?
8. What is the price of redemption?
9. Who gives the ultimate redemption in the story?
10. Consider our redemption through Jesus Christ, how does this parallel Arman's?

🌀 Compare and Contrast Characters 🌀

As you read the story, fill in the following character study sheets. Then, either by way of a list or a Venn diagram, show how Lady Averella Amal of Carmine and Madam Gren Fenny Hoff are similar and how they are different.

☞ Character Close-Up ☞

Name: Lady Averella Amal of Carmine

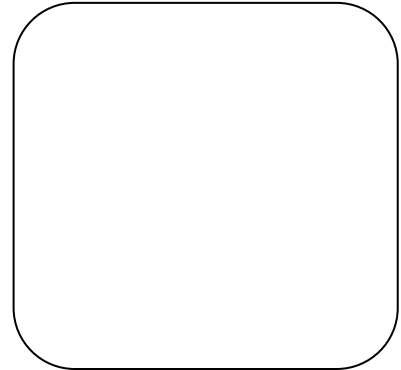
A.K.A. : _____

Home town: _____

Social status: _____

Love interest(s): _____

Family: _____



Personality (what insight do we see from all her running away):

Physical description: _____

Strengths: (Be sure to include her role as a healer and her gift of blood voicing)

Weaknesses: _____

Her faith/beliefs: _____

Likes: _____

Dislikes: _____

What does she want most: _____

What is she most afraid of: _____

What do you like most about this character? _____

Additional info: _____

☞ **Character Close-Up** ☞

Name: Madam Gren Fenny Hoff

A.K.A. : _____

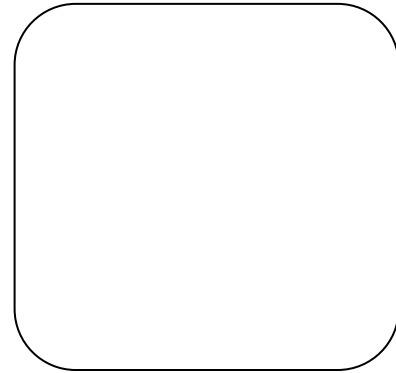
Home town: _____

Social status: _____

Love interest(s): _____

Family: _____

Personality :



Physical description: _____

Strengths: _____

Weaknesses: _____

Her faith/beliefs: _____

Likes: _____

Dislikes: _____

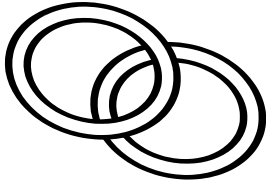
What does she want most: _____

What is she most afraid of: _____

What do you like most about this character: _____

Additional info: _____

☞ The Betrothal Promise ☞



When Achan is first given Lady Averella's sleeve as a symbol of his betrothal to her, he is not happy about it. He feels obligated to uphold a marriage to a young woman he's never even met, but as a man of his word, he still honors the commitment. By wearing her sleeve, he lets everyone around him know of his marriage intentions.

1. What is the gamut of emotions this obligation causes him?
2. How is her sleeve an effective barrier against unwanted female attention?
3. What is the meaning behind him taking off the sleeve during his binge drinking night?

When Achan realizes that Lady Averella is in fact Vrell Sparrow, the woman he loves, he gives her his father's—King Axel's—signet ring.

1. Describe what the ring looks like.
2. How does Vrell wear it?
3. How does she almost lose it?
4. What would your perfect engagement/wedding ring look like?

Lady Averella's sleeve and King Axel's ring are similar to a modern day engagement ring in some ways, and to a promise or purity ring many young adults—both male and female—wear today.

1. Look up the origin of each of these rings. How did they begin?
2. What is their meaning today?
3. Do you have such a ring? Describe when you first received it and by whom.

œ A Life in Poetic Song œ

In Chapter 8 the minstrels sing the following song about Achan, describing the story of his life and what he means to the people. Choose another character from the book and write your own poem/story of his or her life.

“He grew up here in Sitna Town, the hand his life was dealt.

He milked the goats and fetched the wood, or Poril gave him the belt.

The pawn our king, sing merry, merry, merry. The pawn our servant king.

For he was once the lowest of all strays and now claims to be king.

Then the Great Whitewolf took him up, taught him to use a sword.

He fought quite well, his blade struck true, and blood from Esek poured.

Remember us, sing merry, merry, merry. Remember us, O king.

For you were once the lowest of all strays, and now you’ll be our king.

For he and we were all deceived by our own Lord Nathak.

And now the Pawn King marches south to take Armonguard back.

O rescue us, sing merry, merry, merry. O rescue us, O king.

For you were once the lowest of all strays. Save us, our precious king.”

☞ Creative Arts Ideas ☞



THE TWO HEADED HAWK:

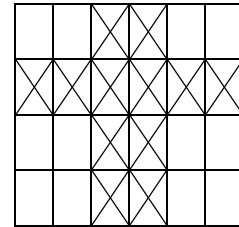
In chapter 9, the two-headed hawk is mentioned as the symbol of the Hadar family. This line of kings are men of action.

Its meaning is that one head looks to the kingdom and the other to Arman, representing constant guard, vigilance, courage, responsibility, steadfastness and reverence.

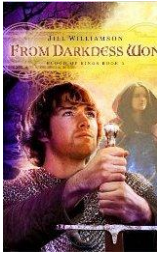
Draw your own two-headed hawk. Add in any additional desired symbols and state their meaning.

GYPSUM'S CROSS STITCH TAPESTRY:

Supplies Needed: cross stitch floss in colors of your choice, a tapestry needle, a piece of linen fabric (10 x 10) and a hoop (optional).



1. Create a cross stitch design of your choosing on graph paper (Ideas could be your name or initials, a word, a logo or symbol, or use the Interlocking circles Toros the priest wore on the front of his surcoat). A good rule of thumb is to think simple. Allow for a one-inch margin around the outside.
2. Draw the design directly on to the fabric or use fabric transfer paper.
3. Trim off salvage edges of fabric.
4. Line the outside edge with masking tape.
5. Thread the needle with 2 strands of floss about 18-20" long. Knot only one end of the two strands.
6. Begin creating X stitches, working from the bottom to the top of each X. Take care to keep stitching tension consistent.
7. When finished, remove masking tape and frame if desired.



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Vocabulary Words

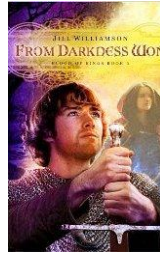
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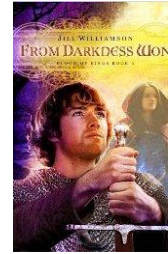
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Chapter 13

Chapter 14

Chapter 15



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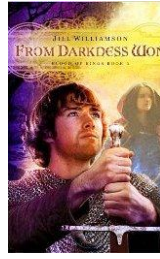
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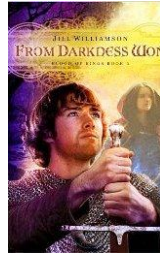
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Extra:

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Chapter 44



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