



Líona the Lionheart

Book Experience

Estimated time: 2 hours

Each person receives a copy of the book to read along with and take home.

If the group is large, some portions of the gathering can be done in small groups of 5-6. If you are facilitating the group, please practice your part and read through the directions for a couple of days and order copies of the book for everyone (allow 3 weeks for shipping).

Facilitator: Welcome to the Book Experience for Líona the Lionheart. We are going to start by reading a song. (One person slowly reads aloud one of the first two songs from the book.)

Please introduce yourselves (*in small groups of 5-6*), and if you like, briefly talk about what drew you to this gathering. Please be respectful of the group and save long conversations for later. We will have several opportunities for you to contribute to the conversation, but it is always optional. If you choose not to respond, you can say that you'd simply like to listen for now. (The group introduces themselves, 20 minutes.)

Let's read the book. If you are a reader, please take your time. (The facilitator or the group may choose how you would like to read it. For example, if the group is small, you could read around the circle where each person reads a page or a paragraph. This is a whole-group activity, 25 minutes.)

What part of the story stood out to you? Before you respond, take a moment to think about it in silence. (*Then discuss in your small group, 10 minutes.*)

This story is symbolic. Think about the part that stood out to you. Does that part of the story have a message for your life? What is the message? We may interpret the story differently. That's ok. Before you respond, take a moment to think about it in silence. (*Then discuss in your small group, 20 minutes.*)

Choose a character, place or item from the story that is meaningful to you. What does it stand for? What does it symbolize for you? Differing viewpoints are welcome. Take a few quiet minutes and look through the book to choose an item you would like to talk about. (*Then discuss in your small group, 10 minutes.*)

What is one idea you would like to take away from this gathering? (*Discuss in your small group, 20 minutes.*)

To close, we are going to read the last song in the book in unison. (The group reads.)