



Book Club Book Guide for Soul Keeper

BROTHERHOOD OF SHADOWS SERIES, BOOK 1

by Cathryn Marr

General Discussion Questions

1. Did the book hold your attention while laying out the story and characters?
2. How effective was the world building? Was the reference material provided in the book helpful?
3. What parts of the book stood out to you?
4. What did you think about the main characters Rory and Luc? Did their backgrounds and personal stories intrigue you?
5. Did the characters actions and words stay true to their personalities throughout the book?
6. Which character in the book appealed to you the most?
7. If you were the author, what character would you choose to focus on for the next book in the series? What intrigues you about them?

Crystal and Psychic Children Discussion

There is a short article on our website at cathrynmar.com under 'Blogs' about Crystal Children and Psychic children who are central to the story in Soul Keeper. We suggest you read this together and reference it during this discussion.

1. Who or what is a Crystal Child?

2. When did the concept of Crystal Children become known to you? Was it before reading Soul Keeper?
3. What draws you to this idea or concept?
4. What are some characteristics of a Crystal?
5. Have you or someone you know had someone in their life like this? Might YOU be a Crystal?
6. How does the idea that some individuals are born with varying degrees of psychic ability resonate with you or your life experience? Have you ever been to a medium, had your palm read or anything similar?
7. In Soul Keeper, Crystal children are sought after for evil purposes. Protected by a handful. Held in suspicion and deemed dangerous by others who decide its best to destroy them because of their special abilities. In our society, over the years how are other gifted or differently abled children/young adults treated by our:

School systems

Other adults

Medical community

Other children

8. Does the level of acceptance (or lack of it) change in adulthood?
9. Are biases about those different than us in any way (race, religion, abilities, culture, gender, or sexual orientation) inborn or learned?
10. How do we, or can we, change?
11. The mission of Crystal children is thought to be unity, bringing people together. Crystals see others as equals, regardless of their differences, and see beyond the surface into the depths of a person's feelings. Do you think this is something that can be taught, or is this something we need to be born with to hold in meaningful levels?

Angel Discussion

1. What religions today believe in the existence of angels? This may require an internet search. It did for us. How does the existence of angels line up with your personal beliefs?
2. Are there instances you are familiar with in historic religious writings such as the Old Testament, the Torah or Quran where angels were visible to or interacted with humans or had duties to perform?
3. How many names of angels from religious teachings can you think of? Try to come up with at least 3
4. For those who believe angels existed in the past, what about in today's world? Do angels exist and if so, do they interact with humans? Have you or someone you know had an encounter or experience with an angel or supernatural being?
5. Having a guardian angel is a concept familiar to many. Does this concept resonate with you?
6. Were you familiar with the term 'fallen angel' from outside of Soul Keeper? Discuss what you have heard or read about fallen angels. Can you name the leader of the angels cast out of heaven?

When looking into the topic of fallen angels, we found a few interesting things that lent themselves to a cool storyline. Believe me, we are NOT in any way experts on angels.

Here are some key ideas we found on the internet related to our story you can discuss:

Watchers were thought to be a type of angel who were cast out of heaven noted in the book of Daniel 4:13, 17, 23. The apocryphal writings in the ancient Hebrew text in the books of Enoch also refers Watchers. (Wikipedia, books of Enoch) And also, there is a reference potentially attributed to Watchers in Jude 1:6 "And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but

abandoned their proper dwelling—these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day”.

The Watchers play a key role in the Soul Keeper storyline as the devastating evil that was contained in the Kartchner caverns for thousands of years. They are searching for a way to get out, unleashed in the world to completely control it, leading to the destruction of humankind.

Nephilim (our character Dr. Beck was a descendant of a Nephilim) are also part of Soul Keeper, imagined with our own spin to tell our story. They are thought by some to be the offspring of Watchers and human beings.

Reference to the possible existence of Nephilim can be found in Genesis 6:1-22. One interpretation of this passage (the wording varies by the translation) is that the ‘sons of God’ were angels and had children with the ‘daughters of men’. Also, Numbers 13:33 suggests that the Nephilim were a people of extraordinary size, possibly associating them with giants.

Note: There are many other interpretations of these verses. Extensive discussions of the books of Genesis and Enoch by both Jewish and Christian scholars have gone on for generations. (Wikipedia, BibleStudyTools.com under Fallen Angels).

Character Discussions

1. Who has seen the 1997 movie classic *The Fifth Element* starring Milla Jovovich as Leeloo and Bruce Willis as Korben Dallas? This is a favorite movie of Dawn’s, one of the Cathryn Marr writing team.

Discuss what you remember from the movie – the movie premise, favorite characters, memorable scenes, or lines from the movie. Do you remember who or what the 5th element was?

**If no one has seen the movie, check out the movie synopsis on Wikipedia. Maybe consider a ‘girls night’ to watch the movie!*

2. Do you think Rory is fully human with 'more', part human or something else entirely? Do you think Rory is a fifth element type being or is it the newly born child?
 3. What characteristics does Rory have that you can relate to? Are there aspects of her character you can't relate to or don't understand?
 4. Luceire (Luc) is a Fallen Angel and a Psy Vampire. Is Luc (or any fallen angel) deserving of redemption? Do you think full redemption is possible for him?
 5. Solaya and Senn were charged with taking care of Rory when her parents died. They had to decide how much and when to tell her about her unusual abilities as well as when to train her. There are some life changing situations that parents, or caregivers must discuss with children as they get older. When that is appropriate can be extremely difficult to determine, and easy to put off. What were the consequences for Rory of their decision to not tell her sooner? Is this situation similar in some ways to a life experience you or someone you know have experienced?
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Questions compliments of Cathryn Marr
author of Brotherhood of Shadows series www.cathrynmarr.com

Sometimes wicked. Always divine. Sexy paranormal with a twist of humor.