

Stepping Into the Light ~ Discussion Questions

1. Rather than a contemporary setting, this book ventures into a medieval setting with castles and a fairy tale feel. Have you ever been to a true castle? What surprised or impressed you the most? If you could visit any castle in the world, which would you pick? Why do you think our society is so fascinated by royalty and how they live?
2. Books give us the opportunity to visit other countries and experience their cultures. This book is set in the Highlands or northern region of Scotland. Have you ever been to Scotland? What part of their culture would you be most interested in experiencing? Did the inclusion of a glossary and burr-implying dialogue help bring the setting to life or merely distract you?
3. Which character in the book did you relate to the most? Why? Did you have a favorite scene?
4. The author drew inspiration for the opening scene from the familiar story of Snow White. While the plot went in a different direction, what other parallels still remained between the two stories?
5. Evan Sinclair feels overlooked and inferior as the second son or “spare heir” living in his brother’s shadow. Have you ever come up short in the comparison game? How did you it make you feel about the star? Did you make an effort to stand out in a different way?
6. For various reasons, Moira tries to hide her physical scars behind a cloud of hair and her skill with herbs in the kitchen. Yet Evan reminds her that scars are a badge of honor for a warrior as a symbol of surviving the fight. What scars do you carry and what battles do they represent? How can your scars be a source of inspiration for others?
7. Medieval Scotland was a rugged and barbaric place, yet we know that the Christian faith had a definite influence through the work of priests, monks, and friars. Today, our political climate can sometimes feel just as rugged and barbaric. How do you maintain your faith in the face of opposition and hardship? How does light still shine in darkness?
8. Like the title suggests, both Evan and Moira eventually step into their true identities as leaders and become who they were born to be. While I’m sure you’re not the literal child of a ruler, the Bible says that believers are adopted to become children of God. As a child of the true King, have you fully embraced your new identity? In what ways do you need to step into the light of who God created you to be?