

Saving Grace ~ Discussion Questions

1. This story had a contemporary time period, but a historical setting with strong ties to the Old West and railroads. Not to mention a castle. Is there a time period in history you would like to learn more about? If so, is there a location you could visit where that history would come to life? Have you ever visited a castle?
2. In the opening author's note, there's a reference to "a girl living in a fairy tale world but not having a fairy tale life." What does a fairy tale include? How did Grace's surroundings, past, and current situation reflect that dynamic? Were there any similarities to familiar fairy tales? Do you have a favorite fairy tale or a least favorite you think has been overdone by remakes?
3. Which character in the book did you relate to the most? Why? Did you have a favorite scene?
4. This story included excerpts from other stories including one about a girl with scars, a girl competing with her cousin for a man's attention, a girl experiencing one romantic situation while wishing she was with someone else, and a girl fighting to claim what was rightfully hers. How did these excerpts reflect or contribute to Grace's journey? Were they a distraction or add layers to the story?
5. Grace and Drew both had visible scars, but not all scars are physical. What other life experiences leave scars on our hearts and minds? How was her "uncle" John Howard scarred by the past? What about Drew's friend Steve? Are some scars and injuries worse than others? Where and how can the wounded find healing?
6. Drew wants to be a hero like the mysterious girl whose prayer changed his life and therefore joins the military. But he discovers that not all heroes wear a uniform. What does it mean to be a hero? Is that something that can be forced intentionally or a trait that just happens when we pay attention to the people around us?
7. The title of the book is *Saving Grace*. Grace was literally saved from the fire, but she's not the only one. Discuss the various characters and situations of the story and ask who saved who. Also, grace is unmerited divine favor. How did God's grace show up in the story?
8. The entire castle series had elements of hidden identities and characters learning what it meant to live as a child of God. After all, the Bible says that believers are adopted to become children of God and joint heirs with his Son. As a child of the true King with an inheritance, are there responsibilities that come with that gift? How does this truth impact your daily life?