

WINGS ONCE CURSED & BOUND

PIPER J. DRAKE

DISCUSSION GUIDE



WARM UP

- Which scene stuck with you the most?
- Did you re-read any scenes? If yes, which ones? What was it about them that drew you?
- What surprised you most about this book?
- Piper is known for using food in her stories to develop worldbuilding and characterization. Did any of these moments stand out to you? What purpose do you think the group dinner scene served?
- What is your favorite fairytale and what object from that tale would pop up in the world of Mythwoven?

CHARACTERS

- Peeraphan goes by Punch when interacting with most characters. Why is that? Would you prefer to be called by a nickname, or would you invest the energy in correcting the pronunciation of your real name with every person you interact with each day, multiple times a day?
- For many Thai people, their nickname is used more often than their real name – to the point where acquaintances or co-workers may only know them by their nicknames and not know their real name. How is this similar to, or different from, your experiences with your friends, family, and acquaintances?
- Bennett and Thomas have a complicated relationship due to their vying natures. Why do you think vampires and werewolves are so often seen at odds in media?
- Foxes one and two were sent to steal the wings and tail of a kinnaree, thinking Peeraphan had acquired them as magical objects separate from herself. They claim they would not have taken her if they'd realized they were a part of her—do you believe them? What do you think is the distinction?

THEMES

- Humility is deeply embedded in many cultures, but the way we are taught to be humble sometimes damages our self-confidence. How do you feel about finding the balance between thinking well of yourself and being selfless about lifting up others?
- Change is hard for everyone, some more than others. Bennett, as a vampire, has lived a lot longer than others and for him, change comes slow. Why do you think change sometimes becomes harder for people the older they get?
- Marie and Peeraphan share a moment when they discuss not having access to generational knowledge or resources while they explore their personal identities and abilities. Many diaspora might resonate with this experience. How does this compare to your own?
- Peeraphan must face many truths about herself in order to free herself from the red shoes. If you were in that cave in her place, what kinds of truths would set you free?
- What does the title mean in relation to Peeraphan's journey? Are there any deeper, less literal meanings it may have?