

Fireborne Reading Guide

Grades 6-8

Chapters 1-2 (pp. 1-46)

1. What have you learned about the two main characters, Lee and Annie? Were there any things that surprised you about them?
2. What are the dragons like in this world? What kind of dragon would you want to fly—a stormscourge, skyfish, or aurelian?
3. Who do you think will win the Firstrider Tournament?

Chapter 3 (pp. 47-83)

4. In this chapter we see more of the world of Callipolis. What are some good ways Callipolis has changed since the Revolution? Did you notice any things the new regime does that might not be good? Would you say this is a utopian or dystopian society, or somewhere in the middle?
5. What are some of the ways Annie goes out of her comfort zone in this chapter? (Have you ever done something that took you out of your comfort zone?)
6. What do you think Lee will do now that he's seen his family?

Chapter 4 (pp. 84-109)

7. The title of Chapter 4 is "Aletheia," the name of Lee's father's dragon. In Greek, *aletheia* means "truth." Why do you think this chapter has this title?
8. Why didn't Lee leave? If you were him, do you think you would have left?

Chapter 5 (pp. 110-141)

9. Why do you think Lee decides to meet with the person waiting for him at the Pickled Boar? Do you think he did the right thing?

Chapter 6 (pp. 142-156)

10. After Annie's tournament, she realizes who the two finalists are and "all of a sudden she feels like crying." Why?

Chapter 7 (pp. 157-187)

11. Lee has moral qualms about doing morale visits for his country. Why? Do you think this kind of propaganda is good or bad? Is propaganda always bad? How would you feel if you had to do a morale visit?
12. The morale visit Lee leads and the one Annie leads go very differently. Why?
13. Why is Annie so conflicted watching Lee's morale visit?
14. Does Annie know who Lee is?

Chapter 8 (pp. 188-223)

15. Annie and Lee find the Lyceum Ball difficult in different ways. How?
16. Why does Lee go with Crissa? Do you think he should have?

Chapter 9 (pp. 224-236)

17. Why does Lee leave Annie behind on the extraction? Do you think it was a good idea?
18. Why does Annie decide to train with Power? Do you think it was a good idea?

Chapter 10 (pp. 237-273)

19. In what ways has Power showed new sides, and what ways has he remained the same, since the beginning of the book?
20. Crissa and Annie have a difficult conversation in this chapter, but it doesn't turn into a fight. Why not?
21. Who do you think will win the Firstrider Tournament, and is it different than who you predicted originally?

Chapter 11 (pp. 274-293)

22. What was your favorite part of this chapter?
23. Did you think what happened was "fair"?

Chapter 12 (pp. 294-313)

24. Why is the *Aurelian Cycle* banned? Do you think it should be?
25. Why does Lee "want the world to burn" on Palace Day?
26. Annie went for years unable to face who Lee is. In this chapter, she does. What has changed?

Chapters 13-14 (pp. 314-339)

27. In these chapters, Atreus and the Guardians have to make some very tough choices as leaders of their country "for the greater good." Do you think they do the right thing? What would you have done in that situation? Can you think of other tough choices that have to be made by leaders in the real world for the greater good?

Chapters 15 (pp. 340-353)

28. Lee reaches the breaking point with his cousin's final offer. Why is he tempted now most of all? What makes him doubt his choice to serve the new regime?

Chapter 16 (pp. 354-369)

29. How does Annie convince Lee once and for all that the new regime is "the lesser of two evils"? What are the good and bad things about each regime? If you had a dragon and had to pick a side to fight for, which side would you choose?

Chapter 17 (pp. 370-397)

30. Crissa is Annie's romantic rival but has also been a mentor and a friend—how?
31. How has Annie changed since the beginning of the book?
32. What do you think Lee will do? What would you do?

Chapter 18 (pp. 398-426)

33. How does the revelation of the flashback in this chapter change what you know and what you expect to happen?
34. Julia and Lee reach a point of no agreement but of mutual respect. Have you ever had this experience with someone you disagreed with, but respected?
35. What are the ways in which the book “signposts,” or foreshadows, the choice Lee makes in this chapter? Do you think he makes the right choice?
36. At the end, there is a new Firststrider. Do you think this assignment is “fairer”?

Chapter 19 (427-432).

37. The title of the last chapter is “Revolution’s Children.” What makes Lee’s recusal, and Annie’s acceptance of a new title, “revolutionary” for each of them? How does it upend the expectations they had about themselves at the beginning of the book?
38. What do you think will happen in the sequel? (*Flamefall*, publishing early 2021).