

WARRIORS WITHIN: BOOK ONE OF THE FIANNA CYCLES
BY JANINE DE TILLIO CAMMARATA
BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who was your favorite character? Why?
2. Who was your least favorite character? Why?
3. Is Vince good for Michaela, even though he tends to not understand her? What do you think of them being together for so long and not getting married? What are they waiting for?
4. What role do you think Natalie will play in the next book? Will she play a crucial part in Ireland?
5. Do you think Michaela was right in trying to find out who killed her father or should she have left it to the police? What would you have done?
6. Ricky Cartillo believes that what he did to protect his family was justified, even if it meant killing someone. Do you think he truly believes that his actions are acceptable or is he insane?
7. How did you feel about Ricky's relationship with Michaela?
8. Michaela and Shannon are extremely close. Do you have a special relationship with your sibling? Is there some traditional outing that you do once a week, once a month or once a year? How did Shannon and Michaela's weekly dinner help them bond?
9. Michaela's father contacts her often through her dreams. He encourages her to investigate his murder and help Natalie. Do you think it's possible to dream of loved ones who have passed on? Have you experienced this?
10. How do you think Maecha Ruadh mac Art develops as a character? How does she change from the beginning of her quest to the end of the book?
11. What do you think of the bonding that occurs between Maecha and Kelan? What would be the benefits or disadvantages of having this type of bond?
12. Why was Michaela sent to reside in Maecha's dream world? Did Maecha need Michaela to succeed in her challenges?
13. Did Michaela feel guilty about her father's death? Why was she so determined to find out who his killer was? How did staying in Maecha's dream world help her?
14. Celtic Ireland was ruled by a matriarchy where a woman decided what man would be her consort and king. She had rights, could fight in battle, and rule the land as she saw fit. Maecha claimed the right of sovereignty and stood up to her evil brother, Cairpre. Do you think women today would do what Maecha had to do to claim her right to join the Fianna? What modern situation would be similar?
15. Kelan takes backstage to Maecha most of the time, even though they are the balanced equivalent of male and female. Is he jealous of her role as leader? How do they complement each other? Do you feel that women and men could live as complete equals like Kelan/Maecha or the Lord and Princess of the Otherworld?
16. What questions/situations do you feel have been left unanswered and would like to read about in the next book?