This Shore of Light by K. C. Ireton
Questions for Discussion or Reflection

Hello, book club aficionados!

I'm honored that you've chose to read my novel for your book club! Thank you!

You'll find most of the questions listed below in the back pages of the printed book, but I've included them here in a more streamlined format so you can download and/or print them for easy access during your book discussion.

If you have any questions, or if you'd like me to join your conversation, please just ask (kci@kcireton.com). Make sure you include the date, time (and time zone!) of your discussion. If I'm available at the time of your book club, I will happily join you via Zoom.

Questions to Start the Conversation

- What did you notice?
- What did you wonder about?
- Who was your favorite character and why?
- What connections do you see to other stories you've read?
  (The Bible, fairy tales, and Shakespeare are three good places to start.)

Digging Deeper

This Shore of Light has two images in the title. Where in the book do we see images of:

- Shores/beaches/water
- Light (and dark)
- How do these images function at a literal level?
- How do they function metaphorically or spiritually?

Focusing on the shore image:

- Who goes to the beach?
- What happens there?
- What is the significance of that event happening at the beach/on the shore? Does the physical location reinforce the event in some way? How?
- What are the metaphorical/spiritual shores for each of the main characters?
    - Molly
    - Tristan
    - Diana
    - Hal
    - Eleanor
- What moves each character toward that shore?

This Shore of Light by K. C. Ireton
Questions for Discussion or Reflection

Focusing on the image of light (and its corollary, darkness):

- Where do you see (literal) light in the story?
- Where is there (literal) darkness?
- What are some of the metaphorical or symbolic meanings of light?
- How do those meanings deepen or enrich the images of light in the novel?
- How are images of shores and light related?

Birds are another recurring image in the book:

- Where did you notice birds?
- What kinds of birds were mentioned? How do the different birds relate (or not relate) to one another?
- What are some of the metaphorical or symbolic meanings of birds, both in general and specific to this novel?
- How did the bird imagery create connections or echoes within the story?

Sleeping and waking are also recurring motifs:

- When and where do characters sleep and wake?
- In what ways is the location of sleeping/waking significant?
- What are some of the metaphorical or symbolic meanings of sleeping and waking? How do those meanings deepen the literal meaning of sleeping/waking in the novel?

~

I sure hope these questions provoke good conversations! If one of them starts an especially rich discussion, I do hope you'll let me know!

Thank you for reading my novel. Without you, this book would just be black marks on white paper. Your attention and delight, dear reader, turn it into a living story.

With gratitude,
K. C. Ireton

K. C. Ireton is the author of *This Shore of Light: a novel; A Yellow Wood and Other Stories;* and *The Circle of Seasons: Meeting God in the Church Year.* You can find her online at kcireton.com, subscribe to her newsletter at kcireton.substack.com, or email her at kci@kcireton.com.