



RICK RIORDAN PRESENTS

A GIFTED CLANS SERIES

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THE
LAST
FALLEN
STAR

THE
LAST
FALLEN
MOON

THE
LAST
FALLEN
REALM



EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

Disney • HYPERION

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ABOUT THE BOOK

THE LAST FALLEN STAR

Riley Oh can't wait to see her sister get initiated into the Gom clan, a powerful lineage of Korean healing witches their family has belonged to for generations. Her sister, Hattie, will earn her Gi bracelet and finally be able to cast spells without adult supervision. Although Riley is desperate to follow in her sister's footsteps when she herself turns thirteen, she's a saram—a person without magic. Riley was adopted, and despite having memorized every healing spell she's ever heard, she often feels like the odd one out in her family and the gifted community.

Then Hattie gets an idea: What if the two of them could cast a spell that would allow Riley to share Hattie's magic? Their sleuthing reveals a promising incantation in the family's old spellbook, and the sisters decide to perform it at Hattie's initiation ceremony. If it works, no one will ever treat Riley as an outsider again. It's a perfect plan!

Until it isn't. When the sisters attempt to violate the laws of the Godrealm, Hattie's life ends up hanging in the balance, and to save her, Riley has to fulfill an impossible task: find the last fallen star. But what even is the star, and how can she find it? As Riley embarks on her search, she finds herself meeting fantastic creatures and collaborating with her worst enemies. And when she uncovers secrets that challenge everything she has been taught to believe, Riley must decide what it means to be a witch, what it means to be family, and what it really means to belong.



PRE-READING QUESTION

Yet another day in the life of Riley Oh—the wannabe witch living in an exclusive gifted world. (p. 4)

The story begins with an introduction to our heroine Riley Oh, an ordinary “saram” living among magical and glamorous beings. Although she has a loving and accepting family, Riley's sense of rejection and feeling of otherness has formed much of her identity and self-worth.

How can these feelings influence one's direction and purpose in life? Riley imagines that magic will allow her to feel acceptance and self-worth. Will magic truly empower her, or does she need to discover her true self to feel complete?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *I was adopted. And don't get me wrong. My parents try super hard to make me feel part of the gifted community, and I love them so much for it. But the truth is, the harder they try, the more I realize how much of an outsider I really am. I'm different.* (p. 1–2)

Riley Oh, the protagonist, feels so much like an outsider. She admits that it's not because her family makes her feel this way; they love her very much. Where do you think these feelings of being “other” and even “inferior” are coming from?

2. *People don't like what they can't understand. It scares them, and scared people do foolish things. I guess that makes sense.* (p. 3)

Do you think that Riley is speaking about herself? Is it possible that the other witches don't “understand” Rye because she is a saram? Or is she intimidated by the gifted community because she can't quite understand what it's like to have magical powers?

3. *I'm basically really talented at crying. . . . It's yet another piece of evidence that I'm not a true Ob. That I'm weak and don't belong.* (p. 6)

Throughout the book, Rye tries very hard to contain her emotions, to hold back tears and to not look “weak.” Do you think this is helpful or hurtful as she tries to process her feelings and various events in her life?

4. *I stick my hand in my pocket and squeeze my onyx stone to calm my nerves. It's shaped like a curved teardrop, and it's the only thing my biological parents left me.* (p. 7)


Rye likes to hold her onyx stone because it reminds her that she comes from somewhere. Without so much as a photograph of her biological parents, how difficult do you think it might be for Rye to imagine where she comes from and what her heritage might be?

5. *Could I actually become a healing witch—a real Gom? Could this be my chance to do my parents proud and prove to the gifted community that I belong?* (p. 11)

This gives us insight into how Rye feels she can “redeem” herself, but it also reveals that she doesn't think her parents are proud of her for who she is, or that she belongs to her community. Is it a good idea to try to “prove” ourselves to others? What pitfalls can we run into if we try to gain other people's approval?

6. *The ring used to be his mom's wedding band before it was refashioned for Emmett. He once told me, in a rare moment of candor, that the ring was special to him because it represented his parents' love—and their love created him.* (p. 79)

Emmett's willingness to lend Riley his mom's ring shows his deep feelings for his friend Rye. Why is this gesture even more symbolic, given Emmett's personality?

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7. *“Sometimes putting a thing in plain sight is the best hiding place of all.”* (p. 81)

Noah says this of the Joseon Chalice, a six-hundred-year-old artifact that has been housed in his father’s Taegwondo dojang. How does this foreshadow the events to come?

8. *[S]ometimes the sky makes me feel a bit . . . well, sad. Like when you forget something you know was important, but no matter how hard you try, you can’t remember it.* (p. 88)

What was Rye looking at when she thought this and why is it significant?

9. *“We can solve this on our own. My parents have enough on their plates as it is. I got us into this mess, and I will get us out. I can do this. I will do this.”* (p. 99)

Why do you think Rye insists on saving Hattie on her own when she is clearly in over her head?

10. *“There is light within us all, as there is darkness within us all. These two absolutes make us whole. This is the way of the universe.”* (p. 108)

How has this proved to be true thus far in the story? Does this seem to be true for Rye as well?

11. *I feel a small flower of pride bloom in my chest as I show Emmett this part of my world. I want him to know how amazing it is, to understand why it’s so important for me to be accepted here.* (p. 115)

Emmett is on the journey with Rye to find the last fallen star and save Hattie’s life. He is part saram, just like Rye, but doesn’t belong to the same community. Why is it important for Emmett to see exactly why Rye wants to be accepted by the clans?

12. *I grew up thinking I didn’t have a drop of magic in my blood. Now I found out there’s a way I could control the thing I’ve always been ashamed of. No, not just control—master.* (p. 173)

Why does Rye find herself blown away by what the Horangi tell her? Why does this bring her so much hope?

13. *“The five sacred elements are all around us. The Earth was made by Mago Halmi herself, and we were all created in her image, which means we and the elements are all divine in our own right. We don’t need the Godrealm to access our gifts. Magic is inside each of us.”* (p. 173)

Is Rye inspired by what Taeyo tells her? Why does Rye have such a sudden and strong reaction?

14. *“You’re just as bad as them. Power-hungry and magic-obsessed, using your loved ones for your own gain.”* (p. 181)

Why do Emmett’s words cut through Rye’s heart?

15. Why does Rye believe that finding and destroying the last artifact is the perfect solution? (p. 183)

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16. Taeyo lost his parents in the conflict, just like Rye and Emmett. How does he want their legacy to live on through him? (p. 191)
17. Why does Rye think that Taeyo is a healer in his own right? (p. 199)
18. *But, as I clutch Hattie's heart vial to my chest, I realize I've come a long way from being the frightened, hesitant girl I used to be. I may have made some foolish decisions, which got me into this mess, but I'm not going down without a fight.* (p. 219)
- How does this realization help Rye make a momentous decision? How has she come a long way from the beginning of this mission?
19. *"When Sora first told me I had to initiate, I thought I'd have to betray the family that raised me. Be a traitor or something, you know?"* (p. 220)
- Rye shares with Emmett that it's not a betrayal to become a Horangi. Instead, it's something noble and worthy of being called a Gom. How is that echoed in the clan's motto?
20. How did Rye learn again that the sun is mightier than the wind? (p. 236)
21. *"Don't let a curse define who you can and can't be. Only you have the power to decide that." . . . We're both trapped in a story someone else wrote about us. But we have the power to take the reins. If we want to.* (p. 236)
- Explain how these words are true for both the inmyeonjo and Riley.
22. Why is it that Rye feels more Gom after she's initiated as a Horangi? (p. 238)
23. *Now I realize that tears are nothing to be ashamed of. I'd always considered them a flaw—something that made me weak. But now I see that they are a part of who I am—a part of who we all are. They come because we care. It's a way of saying I love you.* (p. 286)
- Describe the final moments between Emmett and his mother. What is the transformation that happens for both Mrs. Harrison and Emmett?
24. *I've spent my whole life thinking of myself as an outsider. I always kept my head down because I was different and never fit in. But as I look around now, something stirs inside me.* (p. 296)
- How has Rye brought together the different clans? What feelings were stirring inside Rye?
25. *And for the first time in my life, instead of being ashamed of my four inner fires, I embrace them. I let the embers drift down over me, become part of me. And as the licks of power engulf me, I allow myself to accept it, and accept myself.* (p. 300)
- How does this revelation help Rye prepare for the final showdown with the goddess?

POST-READING QUESTION

I am the last divine star that fell from the Godrealm's sky. I am the one who was destined to stop the end of all days. I have lost, but I have gained. Because I am strong. And I am brave. My name is Riley Oh, and I was born to shine. (p. 302)

Riley began her journey feeling incomplete and like an interloper even among her family and community. She wasn't sure where she came from and if she really belonged among the gifted. She longed to find acceptance from others, only to realize that she needed to accept herself first in order to find wholeness, purpose, and her own voice.

How was she able to find her true identity and strength after she experienced so much suffering and loss? Would she have been able to find out who she really was—her gifts and abilities—without these obstacles? What does this teach us about the attitude that we should have in confronting our fears and doubts about ourselves?



POST-READING ACTIVITIES

CAST YOUR SPELL

DIRECTIONS: In chapter 9, Noah's chant opens a portal to the Santa Monica Pier for Rye and Hattie to step into. The spell is constructed as a quatrain, or a four-line poem with every line ending in the same rhyme. Write your own spell to teleport yourself to a desired destination. Construct it as a quatrain with rhyme or as free verse with no rhyme.

NOAH'S PORTAL-OPENING SPELL

The thing that is in front of me

Inside the picture that I see

Use your eyes, look carefully,

A door opens momentarily

YOUR TELEPORTING SPELL



Riley's Los Angeles

CHARACTER EXAMINATION

DIRECTIONS: Choose a character from the book and complete each section with as much detail as you can. One example has been done for you.

Character's Name	What the Character Looks Like
Hattie	Round, petite, no freckles, long hair, brown eyes.
What the Character Says	How the Character Acts
"As soon as I'm old enough I'm gonna run for Gorn elder. . . I'm going to shake up that place."	She is smart, brave, and outspoken; fiercely loyal to her sister, Rye.
How the Character Thinks/Feels	How Others Feel or Act Toward the Character
Believes that diversity is a strength and there should be inclusion for all.	Rye feels loved and supported by her, but also that she isn't as assertive or articulate. Noah is very fond of her.
Animal/Symbol/Food that Represents the Character	
Tigress/Flaming Hot Cheetos/Tteokbokki	
Greatest Strength	Possible Weakness
Bravery	Stubbornness
Memorable Quote	
"Sometimes you gotta burn your fingers to enjoy the s'more."	



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Character's Name

What the Character Looks Like

What the Character Says

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How the Character Thinks/Feels

How Others Feel or Act Toward the Character

Animal/Symbol/Food that Represents the Character

Greatest Strength

Possible Weakness

Memorable Quote



CLAN ANALYSIS CHART

DIRECTIONS: Fill in the columns; the first three columns have been completed for you. For the “Visual” column, you can choose or draw an image, make a collage, or create what inspires you based on the character.

Name	Clan	Clan Color	Magic Abilities	Greatest Strength	Possible Weakness	Visual
Riley	Gom/Horangi	Gold/Red				
Noah	Miru	Blue				
Hattie	Gom	Gold				
Taeyo	Horangi	Red				
Jennie	Samjogo	Purple				
David	Tokki	Green				
Cosette	Gumiho	Silver				

THE FIVE ELEMENTS

In the gifted world, there are five sacred elements. If a witch can balance all five, they can access the power of their patron goddess and the magic of their clan. A Gi, which contains the element you lack, must be worn at all times.

DIRECTONS: Identify the four elements you believe you already possess (place a star next to them), and choose the fifth element you wish to develop (write inside the Gi charm). Or, if you're like Rye, choose more of one of the elements you have! After all, all of her elements were fire and that was her strength.



Finally, explain why you chose your Gi element.

YOU CHOOSE

It's all about choice. I don't have to feel conflicted between being Gom or Horangi, gifted or saram, adopted or born into a family. Because my choice isn't either-or. I can choose to be all of those things. It's my actions that define who I am, not who I was born to, or what blood flows through my veins, or even what magic I can wield. And the fact of the matter is that I chose all these people, and these people chose me. (p. 297)

When Rye accepts herself for all that she is, she unlocks her true identity and claims her power as the last fallen star. Rye focuses on who she is and the brave and noble things she has done, rather than who she is not or what she lacks.

DIRECTONS: Write about a time when you cast aside doubts and criticisms—from yourself or others—and chose to do something new or challenging. How did it make you feel? What important lesson(s) did you learn? How were you able to help or encourage others in similar situations?

[illegible]

THE NEXT CHAPTER

At the end of the book, Riley has found her true identity, proudly accepted who she is, vanquished the evil Cave Bear Goddess, and saved her sister, Hattie, along with the rest of society. She and her newly formed group of friends establish their next quest, which is to restore the lost memories of her loved ones and possibly face the wrath of the other goddesses in the process. There is healing, hope, and optimism for everyone, especially Rye.

However, the next mission won't be so easy. Mago Halmi said, *"There is light within us all, as there is darkness within us all. These two absolutes make us whole. This is the way of the universe"* (p. 108). Rye is one half of the fallen star, and she is searching for the other half. If they are to balance each other like the eum and yang, there may be many more obstacles ahead before they can be united.

DIRECTONS: Using the quote below as a springboard, begin writing the next chapter in Riley's mission.

"They are each a pair—a dark sun for a light sun, a dark moon for a light moon. They represent a balanced set of scales, like the eum and yang, built in perfect equilibrium, as you are." (p. 108)



ABOUT THE BOOK

THE LAST FALLEN MOON


For Riley Oh, life as the Godrealm's last fallen star is not all it's cracked up to be. Her new divine heritage doesn't even come with cool magical powers; half of her friends and family (including her parents) can't remember her; and to top it all off, the entire Gom clan is mad at her for killing the Cave Bear Goddess and stripping away their healing abilities. But when their anger boils over and a group of witches curse Riley's home, she knows it's up to her to restore magic back to her clan—even if it means sneaking into the Spiritrealm.


Luckily, Riley has some backup. Along with her sister, Hattie, Riley meets Dahl, a heaven-born boy with shockingly white hair and a fondness for toilets who might not be telling the whole truth about who he is. Together they'll fight vicious monsters, discover dark underwater worlds, and race to save the land of the dead from a fate that no one could have foreseen. And this time, Riley won't let anything get in her way. Because she can't shake the feeling that something terrible is coming their way—and the gifted community is going to need all the powers they can get.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Riley is enjoying the festivities until “that numbness returns, reminding me that I need to keep my doors firmly closed” (p. 12). Why is she shutting out other people and not allowing herself to feel any emotions?
2. *“I’m not a hero. I’m a stain on my family and my community, like these bloody marks on our house.”* (p. 18–19)
What does Riley’s inner dialogue reveal about herself? Does anyone in her inner circle understand why she feels this way?
3. Emmett tells Riley, “You think it’s all about you. As if the whole world revolves around you or something” (p. 29) Do you think that this is true about Riley? Is she creating her own woes because she’s only looking inward? How could things change if she looked outward?
4. *“We all have someone who will accept our weird.”* (p. 35)
Why does Riley say that this is important for friendships? Do you agree?
5. Describe how King Yeomra restructured the Spiritrealm. (p. 79)

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6. Which question does Dahl almost fail to answer honestly during his interview? Why do you think Dahl tried to cover up the truth? (p. 105)
7. What is the legend of the imugi, and why was it significant that Riley says, “Imagine having such immense power at your fingertips and being unable to use it” (p. 114)?
8. *“You are worthy. You deserve to live another life. Sure, things weren’t perfect last time. But that’s what’s so great about reincarnation. You get another go. So, be bold. Take a chance. You’ve got this!”* (p. 136)
Hattie is encouraging Cheol, but how does this apply to Riley?
9. Why are the nicknames “Dreamer Dahl” and “Realist Riley” so fitting? (p. 149)
10. How do Riley and Dahl differ in their attitudes toward their mission? Are they complementary or conflicting? (p. 162–163)
11. During Dahl’s struggle with the mermaid, Riley notices something. What is it, and why is it significant? What does it allow Riley to do? (p. 171–172)
12. *“But something inside me shifts, like a puzzle piece that’s finally clicking into place after being lost behind the couch for months. I’ve always thought it was weird that looking up at the sky could make me feel sad. Perhaps it was because this entire time, I was missing my other piece.”* (p. 179)
How do you think Dahl’s confession will impact Riley’s sense of identity and purpose in life?
13. *“You’re always trying to save me. I’m a problem you have to solve. Last time, you had Emmett. And now you have a twin brother to help you on your mission. And I’m just . . . I’m just deadweight.”* (p. 197)
Explain why Hattie feels useless.
14. Why does Hattie ask if Riley is okay on page 233? Why does Riley look away from her sister? (p. 234)
15. Explain this quote: “When mortals ask for help, I don’t send them a miracle packaged nicely in a box and tied with a ribbon. Instead, I provide them an opportunity in which they can help themselves” (p. 259).
16. *“I’ve been so focused on putting everything back to how it used to be that I got stuck looking at everything from one point of view. But there’s a whole different perspective, if only I open myself up to it.”* (p. 261)
What can Riley’s revelation teach us about changing perspectives?

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17. *“I’m finally starting to see that my superpower—my divine gift—might just be my people.”* (p. 261)
How can Riley’s friends and family be her superpower? How can this apply to us?
18. *“I might not be the same person that I used to be, but I can strive to do better next time around. In fact, if I can’t return things to how they were before, maybe I can work toward creating an even better alternative.”* (p. 261)
Oftentimes, we might experience setbacks or failure during our first attempt. How do Riley’s words encourage us to stay the course and look forward, not backward?
19. *“Just like the circle of life and reincarnation, forests go through seasons of death and revival. It’s a virtuous cycle, because one can’t exist without the other. . . . Otherwise, there’d be no growth, you see. It’s essential.”* (p. 270)
What does the mayor mean by this quote? What can Riley learn about this?
20. *“[Mago Halmi’s] belief is that I don’t need any remarkable powers to be a good leader.”* (p. 291)
When the mayor confesses this, what does Riley realize? How is failure not always a bad thing?
21. Who are Daeyang and Bada? How do they treat the visitors? Why won’t Daeyang hand the eum-and-yang stone over? (p. 303)
22. Describe the series of events that happens when Riley and Dahl take on Pash (p. 326–328).
23. How does the Haetae’s prophecy come true? How do the twins work together?
24. *“And you know, if I’ve learned anything since we got here, if I’ve learned anything from you—it’s that we shouldn’t be scared of change. Sometimes, it’s the only way to move forward. Like Dahl says—it can be an adventure, if we let it be one.”* (p. 341)
What is Hattie about to do that Riley disagrees with? Why is it significant that Hattie has learned this lesson from Riley? What does this moment signify for both sisters?
25. What is the mind-blowing ability of the key that Riley and Dahl accidentally discover on page 349? How can this aid them going forward?
26. *“Despite the road ahead, my heart has never felt so full. The guilt of the past few months is finally peeling off me like dead skin (like a snake?!) and I am finally realizing that change isn’t always doom and gloom. Sometimes change can bring growth. And joy. And love.”* (p. 363)
Why does Riley feel renewed, and how will this allow her to prepare for the next journey, however dangerous it might be? Have you ever experienced change that brought growth, joy, or love?

POST-READING ACTIVITIES

CHARACTER COMPARISON

DIRECTIONS: Riley is the last fallen star, and Dahl is the last fallen moon. They are two parts of a whole and soul twins. However, their personalities make them polar opposites. Next to their names, list some of the traits that make them so different. Then think of a time when the two characters were at odds with each other. Write down their thoughts and feelings and how they took action. In that instance, how did they work together to become the eum and yang, or complementary opposites?

RILEY	DAHL
<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Thoughts/Feelings	Thoughts/Feelings
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Actions	Actions
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Collaboration/Unity	Collaboration/Unity
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>



A LETTER TO RILEY, A LETTER TO MYSELF

Directions: Riley represents all of us who have ever doubted ourselves or been our own worst critic. She is a hero to everyone except to herself. Sometimes, it really can be a struggle to see past our mistakes and flaws. However, Riley has the loving support of Hattie, Dahl, and countless others to help her understand that she is not the sum of her failures; rather, she is a mortal who needs to seize upon her strengths. The key to this was for Riley to take the spotlight off of herself and focus on how she could help others. Today you will write a letter to Riley, encouraging her at her lowest point to help her see that she can save the Spiritrealm with the help of her family and friends. The second letter will be to yourself. Turn off the “inner critic” and turn on the “inner fangirl/boy” as you write words of positive support for the person you were and are becoming. You can address a specific challenge you are/were in. There is a hero in all of us, including you!

Dear Riley,

Dear _____,

SISTER VS. SOUL TWIN

Directions: Hattie is Riley's sister and best friend. Hattie is also the only one who has all of her memories of Riley intact. Dahl is Riley's soul twin and other half. He is her Spiritrealm guide and helper. Riley's relationship with Hattie deepens as her newfound relationship with Dahl builds. At times, though, Riley feels torn between her sister and twin. List how Hattie supports Riley and how Dahl helps Riley as well. Include evidence from the text. Is there a need to choose between Hattie and Dahl? How does Riley come to accept that she has gained more family?

Hattie

- She is Riley's cheerleader, always encouraging her to be stronger.

Dahl

- He is the creative thinker, able to help Riley think positively.



[illegible]



STRENGTH AND WEAKNESS, CONFLICT AND RESOLUTION

Directions: Throughout the book, Riley struggles to find her strengths because she is fixated on her weaknesses. Her internal conflict mirrors the external conflicts that she and her loved ones endure. Think about Riley's journey toward self-acceptance, self-love, and empowerment. How do her weaknesses contribute to conflicts? How do her strengths lead to resolutions? Fill in each portion of the chart and feel free to add to the existing points. Each category can refer to internal or external. P.S. There is no wrong answer!

Conflict

"I'm a complete failure" and "All I know is that I'm really good at making bad situations worse." (p. 6)

"I have no answers. I'm a fake. A pretend divine." (p. 22)

"Nobody gets it. . . . Teamwork doesn't work when you're with me." (p. 44)

Resolution

"Being with her makes me feel like we can achieve anything we put our minds to. And now I have a plan that will solve all our problems." (p. 132)

"I've always thought it was weird that looking up at the sky could make me feel sad. Perhaps it was because this entire time, I was missing my other piece." (p. 179)

"I'm finally starting to see that my superpower—my divine gift—might just be my people." (p. 261)

Weakness

Strength

[illegible]

ABOUT THE BOOK

THE LAST FALLEN REALM

Riley Oh wasn't born into her family. Instead, as she recently discovered, she tumbled down to the earth many years ago as the last fallen star. Riley Oh also wasn't born to be a witch. Like, at all—even her status as a divine celestial being comes with zilch in the magical powers department. And Riley Oh definitely wasn't born to be a leader. But now the entire magical community thinks she and her soul twin, Dahl, are meant to lead the world into the Age of the Final Eclipse (or whatever it is that the Haetae keeps saying they're “destined” to do). Greeeat.

But ever since Riley killed the Cave Bear Goddess, she's been a bit preoccupied with one thing: waiting for the goddess's sisters to get their revenge. And it looks like her wait is finally over—because as witches from around the world prepare for war, it seems as though the goddesses are preparing for something much worse. Something that will lure Riley and her friends deep into the realm of the gods. Into a world of humongous, talking moon bunnies; life-or-death mini-golf competitions; and . . . magical gummy candies? And in order to save the world, Riley must do the one thing she was born to do: believe in herself.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *For Dahl, this is all a great big adventure, where nothing is too big or daunting. Whereas for me, it feels like the weight of the three realms is on my shoulders. I don't have Dahl's swagger. I don't have Hattie's conviction. I definitely don't have Sora's poise or command, nor do I share Taeyo's brilliant mind. I can't even use elemental magic like the rest of the witches because of a deal I made with a dokkaebi goblin last summer. The truth is, I wasn't born to be a hero. It's as simple as that.* (p. 10–11)

What does this reveal about Riley's feelings of self-worth? Why does she not think of herself as a hero when others do?


2. *"You just have to believe in yourself the way we all believe in you. Let yourself be the hero you already are inside."* (p. 19)

What does Sora mean? Does Riley take her words to heart?

3. **What is imposter syndrome, and why does Emmett diagnose Riley with it on page 62?**

4. *"You think that because of the mistakes you made and the bad things that have happened, that you shouldn't be at the helm of our army. But you're only looking at one part of the picture. The rest of us see you for who you are—the courageous, selfless girl who is willing to go to any lengths for the people she loves. We don't look to you because you're the last fallen star, or even because the Haetae has you in another one of his wacko prophecies. We look to you because you've proven yourself as someone worthy of being a leader. Our leader."* (p. 63)

How is Emmett's and everyone else's viewpoint so very different from Riley's opinion of herself? What can Riley glean from Emmett's words?

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5. *All my friends nod, and I suddenly desperately want to change the subject. I don't want them to see that I'm struggling with this. This is war. There's probably a lot more of this fighting and killing I'm supposed to do from now on in, and just because I was raised a healer doesn't mean I can't take on this new job. They can't see me weak like this.* (p. 77)

What is the inner conflict in Riley? Do you think that leaders should not show weakness or vulnerability?

6. **Why did the Water Dragon Goddess leave the Godrealm? How did she become the Dragon King? Why did she eventually return to the Godrealm?** (p. 86–88)

7. **Describe the creation of Mago's Fire on page 88.**

8. **What is the dynamic between Hattie and the Water Dragon Goddess, and why does the goddess thank Hattie when she is dying?** (p. 101)

9. *There is such conviction in her voice, I'm overcome with relief. She's a real leader, not a fraud like me. And now that my brave, headstrong sister is finally here, she and Dahl can take the reins, leaving me to sit in the back seat, where I belong.* (p. 105)

Why do you think Riley views Hattie and Dahl as the real leaders? What is the biggest difference between their personalities and Riley's?

10. *If this one city on Earth can shine this bright when the sky is falling, then maybe we have more going for us than we think. Perhaps the goddesses have underestimated us mere mortals. We might just be harder to extinguish than they ever could've expected.* (p. 114)

Why is Riley filled with hope?

11. **What is the myth that Areum tells Riley and Hattie? Why is the ending so shocking but in a way, makes sense to Riley? How can she relate?** (p. 121–124)

12. *Areum giggles—yes, she actually giggles. And I find myself grinning so hard my cheeks hurt. I think Areum likes this bird-man. It takes me back to the first time I met my inmyeonjo, when she was frenzied and furious, wanting to destroy all the buildings on the Horangi campus because the mirrors reflected back what she didn't want to see. She thought she was ugly, and that she didn't deserve to be treated with compassion. I remember hurting for her, because she had lived her entire life believing such a terrible, ridiculous lie.* (p. 144)

How can Areum's lesson also be a lesson for Riley?

13. *"No," Hattie finally concludes. "You're the one the prophecy said would lead us into the new era, Rye, not me. It's time you believe in what everyone else has known from the start. You are the gold-destroyer, the last fallen star, and our leader. It's time to stop running away and step up."*

She pauses and looks squarely in my eyes. "But don't do it because it's your destiny. Do it because you choose to." (p. 153)

Why is Hattie's tough love important for Riley to accept? Do you think Riley's future is her destiny or her choice? What about you?

14. *"You know how people always say you should follow your gut? That's great, but there's so much noise in there, how do you actually know what it's telling you?" He pats his latex-covered belly, as if to illustrate. "Or when people say that they have a sixth sense. That's just another way of saying that they have a really loud gut voice. They can know things that others can't . . . A Moral Compass calibrates to your internal true north, to give your gut a chance to speak. To help manifest your sixth sense in a way that's immediately visible."* (p. 168)

How do you define a sixth sense? Have you ever experienced it? If so, please explain.

15. **Why does Riley feel a spark of sympathy for the goddesses? Why does she wonder if she's all that different from them? (p. 154)**

16. *My chest tightens. I try to take a breath, but it's like my lungs are at capacity and can't take in any more air. I start to see spots in my vision. My club and ball are squirming in my hands. Oh no, am I having another panic attack?* (p. 180)

"A panic attack is a sudden episode of intense fear that triggers severe physical reactions when there is no real danger or apparent cause." (Mayo Clinic) What are some steps we can take if we start to feel anxious and overwhelmed by our feelings? How was Riley able to get through her panic attack?

17. *I jiggle my fingers above my open compass. "Even though you can't see the wind, we feel it. It helps cool us on a hot day. It spins turbines to power electricity. It helps push the sails on ships to get sailors home to their families." I think of Emmett, Hattie, and my RiOb stans, cheering me on without them even knowing it. "I think faith works a little like that."* (p. 187)

Do you agree with the simile that faith is like the wind? How did it help Riley in this situation, and how did it help Gong and Chae?

18. *But the compass is still as it was in the previous round, showing me a simple mirror. I shake it and tilt it to make it do something—anything—but all I see is my own face reflected back at me. I'm as pale as makgeolli, my jaw clenched tight, with fear spelled as loud as day in my red-rimmed eyes. But there's also something else. Something vulnerable, open, and expectant. And I realize in that moment, in the most inopportune of moments, something I should have figured out months ago.* (p. 210)

What does the compass help Riley to realize, and how does it help her to make her decision on the train tracks? Describe how Riley saved Emmett and what she sacrificed.

19. **What becomes of the heated conversation between Emmett and Riley? Was this surprising? How does it make Riley feel about what they have to do next? (p. 223–227)**

20. *Seeing my friends bursting with courage, something comes over me. Perhaps winning the tournament has filled me with false confidence. Maybe I'm finally learning to overcome imposter syndrome. Or perhaps it's Dreamer Dahl's influence rubbing off on me. But my soul twin's motto, Act it until you exact it, suddenly rings true in my mind. I am feeling the furthest from a hero than I've ever felt before. But I find myself opening my mouth to tell a white lie. Not because it's true, but because I know it will make them feel better. And right now, that is all I can do to help them.* (p. 235–236)

Is it real or false confidence that Riley experiences before ascending the mountain to face the goddesses? How do you know? What white lie does Riley tell everyone, and do you think it's justified?

21. What happens to Dahl at the end of the chapter, and why couldn't Riley do anything? What would you have done?
22. "Dissociation is a disconnection between a person's thoughts, memories, feelings, actions or sense of who he or she is. During a traumatic experience such as an accident, disaster or crime victimization, dissociation can help a person tolerate what might otherwise be too difficult to bear." (American Psychiatric Association) Why do you think Riley experienced dissociation on pages 246–247?

23. *I killed him.*

I slump over Dahl's body and begin to sob uncontrollably. It might have been the mayor's hand that drove the Key into Dahl's heart, but it was only possible because of me. My worst fears have come true. I am not a hero. I am a villain. One that leads her people into destruction and despair. (p. 247)

Why does Riley believe that she is responsible for Dahl's death? Is she a hero or a villain?

24. *Something breaks inside me, like a delicate vase dropped on concrete. And I don't think I'll ever be able to put myself back together again. Too much has gone wrong. And this—all of this—can't be turned back. History can't be erased. (p. 249)*

The American Psychological Association defines trauma as "an emotional response to a terrible event. Immediately after the event, shock and denial are typical." (<https://www.apa.org/topics/trauma>) Do you think Riley has experienced trauma? Please explain.

25. *As the most powerful weapon in the known world falls out of my hand and clatters at my feet, I know I cannot end this soul's life—as evil and terrible as he is. Because this isn't me. I wasn't taught to maim and harm. I was raised to heal and serve. The entire world is falling apart, yes. But that doesn't mean I should help it along. I refuse to play even a small role in the play of this destruction. And if that makes me a poor leader, then so be it. Maybe I was never supposed to be great or a hero. Maybe I was just supposed to be me. (p. 255)*

Is Riley's upbringing helping her or hurting her in this situation? How is Riley starting to find herself through these tremendously difficult circumstances?

26. *And in some ways, the feeling is not unfamiliar. I recall the faintest memories of falling from the sky as a piece of the Godrealm's dark sun, and becoming the Mortalrealm's last fallen star. Maybe I could just keep falling for the rest of time. (p. 257)*

How does falling into the earth's chasm help Riley remember the past? Why is this significant?

27. *"Haetae!" I sob, burying my head in his mane. "I failed! I let everyone down. And I tried; I really did. I tried to be the hero you said I was—that everyone kept saying I could be. But they were wrong. The prophecy was all wrong. I wasn't good enough. I wasn't strong enough. And now Dahl is gone, and everyone else is taken prisoner, and the world has broken. For all I know, the entire world and everyone I've ever known could already be gone!"*

My chest shudders as the weight of my failures threaten to drown me whole. (p. 259)

Why does Riley think that she failed everyone and that the prophecy was wrong? What kind of burden is Riley carrying, and who has placed it on her?

28. *“The Mother’s first teardrop holds within it the most powerful fire in all of existence—an energy so true and so pure that it can never be extinguished. Many choose to focus on its power for destruction, but what they so easily forget is that the tear was shed in love for the world she created . . .”*

“The tear was shed in joy for the sheer beauty of her children. For the life and light that was born unto this world. Because just like stories, or war, or mortals, even teardrops have within them the capacity for light and dark. For good and bad. It’s what they are used for that makes all the difference.” (p. 261)

What was the true purpose and power of the Mother’s teardrop?

29. *The Haetae looks deeply into my eyes. “The only thing stronger than fear is courage. The only thing greater than ignorance is compassion. And the only thing more powerful than hate is love. Ultimately, it’s up to you, last fallen star, to decide which path you take.”* (p. 262)

How is the Haetae trying to encourage Riley? How can Riley have a choice even when everything seems dim?

30. *Because the prophecy was right. My true potential needed to be awakened, but it wasn’t really about Mago’s teardrop at all. It was hidden in the tiny moments as I hungered for magic, when Hattie helped me summon the Cave Bear Goddess, and as I learned through discovering my hidden heritage that true belonging must begin from inside. It was peeking out of the shadows as I journeyed down to the Spiritrealm hoping to fix all I’d broken, only to learn that I was the sum of all those I chose to stand with, and that was what really mattered. The real potential was inside me all along.* (p. 267)

Why does Riley believe now that the prophecy was right? Where was the potential—was it outside of Riley or within her?

31. *You see, it seems so clear now—as crystal as the ring of the Haetae’s bell. Heroes don’t have to be confident or know what to say to woo the crowds. They don’t have to be the best fighters, or the ones quickest to draw their swords. Heroes can be the ones that empower others to be their own heroes. The quiet leaders in the background who enable, and nurture, and care. Whose unwavering service and dogged empathy can give way to a beautiful new era. Someone like me.* (p. 267–268)

How does Riley define hero? How do you define the word?

32. *Mago takes flight once more, and this time she flies right into me. Into my chest, nestling into the deepest depths of me. As her wings dissolve, she forms an unbreakable, impenetrable shield around me, and I know she’s not gone. She hasn’t left me, but she has become a part of me. Just as I am a part of her. Because I finally understand that the ultimate power of the universe is not destruction or strength. It is love.* (p. 268)

Mago makes her home inside Riley’s heart. How is this a fitting place for the mother of creation?

33. **How has Riley changed? What was required for this to happen?** (p. 241)

34. *I throw my arms up wide and unbridle my beating chest, unleashing the invisible colors of Mago's butterfly wings into the auditorium. Because a power as great as the Key of the Final Eclipse should never be trapped inside a relic, or taken into one mere being's possession. A love this monumental deserves to be shared, and to live inside us—in each one of us.* (p. 252)

When Riley realized that the Key was not about power and destruction but about the greatest power of all—love—it gave her hope and purpose. What was it that Riley knew she had to do for her family and friends?

35. *And I know that through this act, I have ensured that a piece of me, a fragment of Dahl, and a sliver of Mago's divine power, will live in them for eternity.*

Surprisingly, pieces of the broken Key are shot into the hearts of the goddesses as well, puncturing a hole for their darkness to seep out. Because compassion isn't only for your friends—it's for your enemies, too. (p. 286–287)

Riley has ensured that the divine will live on within her friends and family. But parts of the Key and therefore Mago also enter the hearts of the goddesses. What do you think Riley means by “compassion isn't only for your friends—it's for your enemies, too?”

36. *Because unlike the mayor or the goddesses, my friends know compassion, and they have no intention of using this opportunity to bring more destruction into their lives, or ours.*

Nobody needs an epic final battle when you have humanity.

War is for weaklings. Peace is for the powerful. (p. 288)

Describe the full-circle moment. How does Riley know that things will be different with her friends? Explain what Riley means by “War is for weaklings. Peace is for the powerful.” How can this change our perception of war and peace?

37. *I think I know how that rabbit felt now, jumping into the fire for the beggar. Love can make us do the unspeakable. Because true love trumps the pain of saying good-bye. In some ways, the mayor wasn't totally wrong. There is some merit to the idea of seasons of change. Sometimes, things must end for new things to begin.* (p. 288–289)


Why does Riley compare herself to the legendary rabbit that gave its own life? How does Riley know again what she must do next? Does she approach the idea of change with fear or with hope?

38. *“Mago's first teardrop exploded the world into being with a big bang. When I return to the sky as the rising sun of the new era, there will be another beautiful explosion. One so powerful and so dazzling that it will kick-start a whole new world—one where love reigns supreme. It's my destiny.” I pause, looking over at my sister. “No, it is my choice.”* (p. 290)

How did Riley's ability to choose love and service to others give her confidence and certainty? Are we bound to destiny, or do we create our own lives based on our choices?

39. *“There is a destiny which makes us [sisters and] brothers; none goes his way alone. All that we send into the lives of others comes back into our own.”* —Edwin Markham

Explain this quote and how Riley chose a destiny in which she was able to send love into the lives of others. How can you apply this to your own life?

- 
40. *“Thank you for believing in me,” I whisper hoarsely to them all. “Even when I didn’t. Especially when I didn’t.”*
(p. 290)

How was Riley supported and strengthened by her closest friends and family? Could she have unlocked her true potential without them? Why is it so powerful when others believe in us and we believe in others to do the right thing?

41. *And with that, I pull away from my kaleidoscope of people, my brightest most proudest mosaic of love. I jump on the Haetae with the goddesses anchored to me, and with one final look at my loved ones, I shed two final tears—one in grief for the world I leave behind and one in hope for the world we wish to create.* (p. 292–293)

When faced with change, why is it important for us to grieve as well as hope?

42. *We explode into a dazzling spectacle of light. Some might say this was our end, our final moment of life as many know it. But others would say that we gave birth to the first day of a new era. I don’t know about you, but I’d hardly call that a death.* (p. 293)

How was Riley’s end really just a beginning? Do you think that endings can be a path to new beginnings? Please expound.

43. *Because magic should live in each of us. And it should belong to all those who choose to wield it. . . . That means every day you step out into the world, you are awash with the power of magic.*

You are filled with endless possibilities.

And you, like me, were born into this world to SHINE. (p. 294)

Why had Riley asked Hattie to make it rain after the explosion? What is powerful about Riley sharing the divine with mortals? What is her gift and encouragement to everyone? How are we each filled with magic and possibilities, and what can and should we do with our abilities?

44. *Thanks to us—you’re welcome!—magic is all around you. It’s inside you. It shines down on you in the day and warms you in the night.*

But how will you make use of it?

How will you live your best magical life? (p. 300)

What is Riley’s “million-dollar question”? Is there anything you can do today to begin your best magical life?

DIRECTIONS: A myth explains how something came to be, involves the divine or magical, and also teaches a lesson. In the myth told by Arum, a small rabbit with a big heart sacrifices herself to give a beggar a proper meal. Then the beggar reveals herself to be the mother of all creation—Mago Halmi. Mago rewards the rabbit by sharing her divinity and making her the Moon Rabbit Goddess.

[illegible]

MIRROR, MIRROR

But the compass is still as it was in the previous round, showing me a simple mirror. I shake it and tilt it to make it do something—anything—but all I see is my own face reflected back at me. I'm as pale as makgeolli, my jaw clenched tight, with fear spelled as loud as day in my red-rimmed eyes. But there's also something else. Something vulnerable, open and expectant. And I realize in that moment, in the most inopportune of moments, something I should figured out months ago. (p. 210)

DIRECTIONS: In literature, the mirror can symbolize many things: one's soul, truth, wisdom, self-awareness, etc. For Areum, the mirror reflected back to her what she didn't want to see and it caused rage and destruction. For the Nine-Tailed Fox Goddess, her constant preening in front of the mirror reflected her vanity and self-absorption. For Riley, the mirror of the moral compass reflected her vulnerability and the openness allowed her to embrace what was in her heart. The realization of her feelings gave Riley the resolve and quick thinking to save Emmett from certain death; the truth gave her courage and made her stronger.

What would the mirror of the moral compass reflect to other characters in the book? Would it have changed their decisions and destinies? With a partner or group, examine the characters below and using support, and examples from the book, decide if they would have changed paths or stayed on the same path had they possessed the mirror of the moral compass.

Character	What would the mirror reflect?	Would it have changed their thoughts/actions?	Evidence and quotes to support your answer
Mayor Yeomra			
Moon Rabbit Goddess			
Emmett			
Areum			

You see, it seems so clear now—as crustal as the ring of the Haetae's bell. Heroes don't have to be confident or know what to say to woo the crowds. They don't have to be the best fighters, or the ones quickest to draw their swords. Heroes can be the ones that empower others to be their own heroes. The quiet leaders in the background who enable, and nurture, and care. Whose unwavering service and dogged empathy can give way to a beautiful new era.

Someone like me. (p. 266-267)

DIRECTIONS: Heroes come in many forms. Some possess otherworldly strength or talent and reside in the realm of fame or fiction, giving wings to our imagination. They dare us to dream. Heroes also exist in real life in the form of our family, friends, and community members; these everyday heroes help shape our character and give us the support and encouragement we need to achieve our dreams. Some heroes inspire by standing before us and other heroes cheer us on from behind, pushing us ahead and further than we could have gone alone.

Riley did not consider herself to be a hero because she compared herself to others and felt she did not measure up to the definition of a leader. All the while, she was sacrificing herself for the sake of others; she was giving up everything to try and save the three realms. It was only when Mago Halmi filled her with love and acceptance that Riley realized she was a hero, too. How did she know this? Because she, too, was filled with such a love for others. Love empowers us to become the greatest version of ourselves. It was love that enabled Riley to save the world and fill it with the magic that she was given, changing the course of humanity.

According to Riley, we can all be heroes. In fact, you are probably a hero to someone right now. How, you ask? Because a hero simply has to encourage, support, help, serve, or care for someone. In the space provided below, write about a time when you demonstrated this. How did it make you feel? What did it inspire you to do next? How do you want to help and care for others in the future? How do *you* want to be encouraged and supported to do your best? How can you be a hero for yourself?

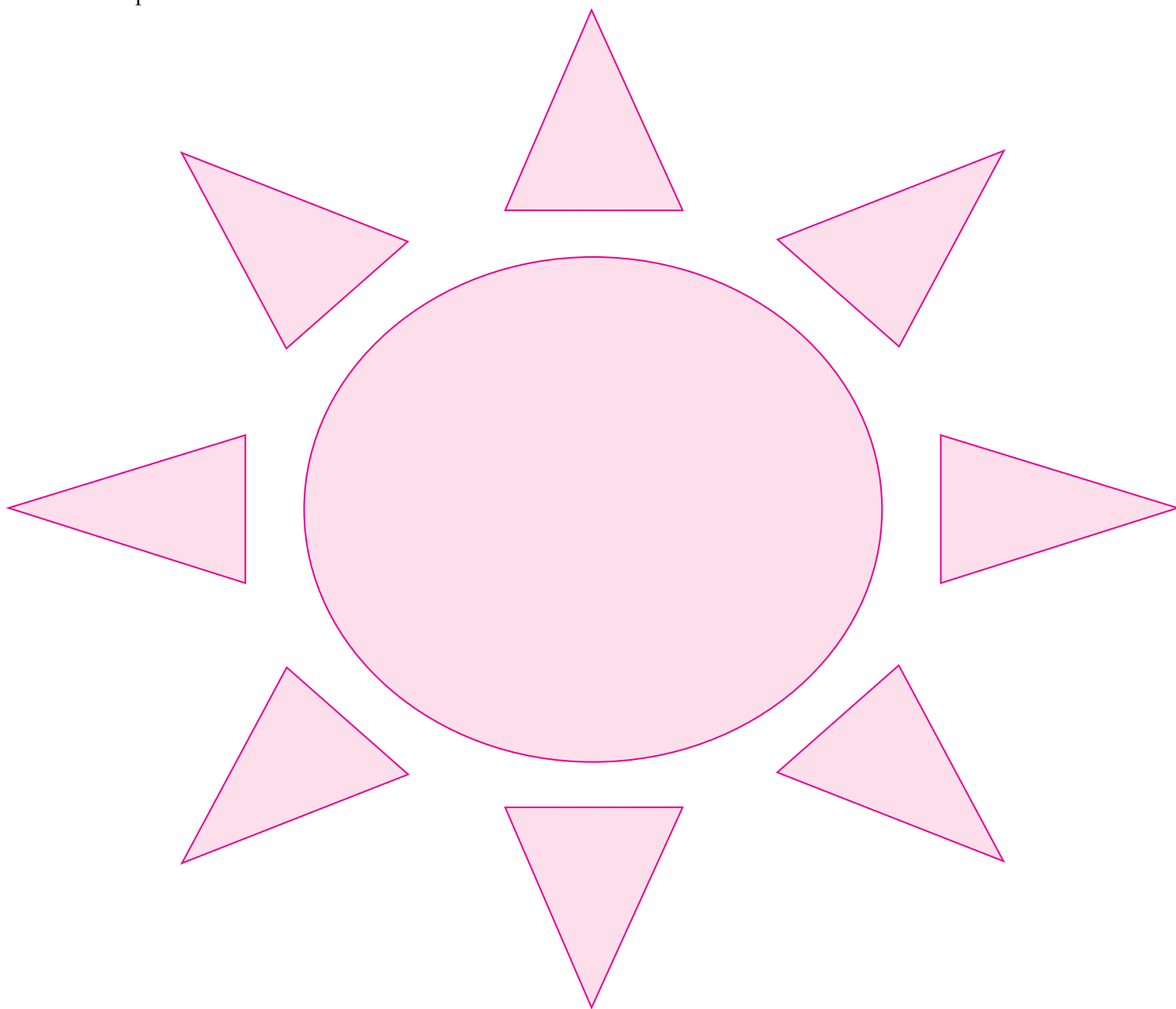
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MOSAIC OF LOVE

And with that, I pull away from my kaleidoscope of people, my brightest most proudest mosaic of love. I jump on the Haetae with the goddesses anchored to me, and with one final look at my loved ones, I shed two final tears—one in grief for the world I leave behind and one in hope for the world we wish to create. (p. 292-293)

DIRECTIONS: The love between Riley and her family and friends was what enabled her to give up her mortality in order to save humanity. But it was also the most difficult part of what Riley had to do, because it meant that she would have to separate from them to become the sun, or the Last Fallen Star. She had to grieve the life that she was leaving behind even as she stepped into her next one.

Who is in your “kaleidoscope of people” (pets included :)? If you were to create a mosaic of love, what would that look like? Using images, photos, drawings and anything else that inspires you, please create a “mosaic of love” within the space below.



MYTH COMPARISON

DIRECTIONS: Author Graci Kim retells the Korean myth of how the sun and moon came to be. Compare the Korean myth with the story of how Riley and Dahl became the sun and moon. Please describe how the characters met, discovered that they were soul twins, suffered through loss and separation, and ultimately became celestial beings.

The Sister and Brother Who Became the Sun and the Moon

Once upon a time, back when tigers used to smoke, there lived a sister and a brother. They had no father; but their mother, who raised them on her own, spent her days working for a rich yangban's family on the other side of the village. The yangban was demanding, and often their mother came home late, long after the sun set over the horizon.

One evening, as the tired mother was returning home, no sooner had she finished begging than he gobbled her up whole. But still, he remained hungry. So he decided he would eat her children, too.

The tiger dressed in the mother's clothes and went to the home where the son and daughter were waiting. The brother and sister were astute, however, and they saw the tiger for what he was. Fearing for their lives, they ran out the back door and clambered up the nearest tree. The tiger climbed after them, looking forward to his meal.

Trapped in the canopy of the tree, the brother and sister called to the heavens for help, and heeding their prayers, the heavens sent down a rope. Grateful for the lifeline, the brother and sister began to climb. They climbed and climbed until they had reached the heavens, where the brother became the sun and the sister became the moon.

The tiger also prayed, but the heavens sent down a rotten rope. And when the tiger began his ascent, it snapped. Screaming, the tiger fell onto a sorghum field and met his death, coloring the seeds with his blood and giving them their reddish tinge.

Living in the sky, the brother and sister rejoiced, for the heavens had taken pity on them. And life in the sky kingdom was good. But soon, the sister found that she was afraid of the dark. So the brother switched places with her, thus becoming the moon. And the sister spent her days as the sun, illuminating the world with her most radiant light. (p. 301–302)

Soul Twins Who Became the Sun and Moon

[illegible]

THEME SONG OF MY LIFE

DIRECTIONS: In literature, the theme is the central idea, meaning, or lesson. Riley learns more than one lesson in *The Last Fallen Realm*, and the book offers multiple themes. With a partner or group, examine the themes and correlating quotes below. Then answer the question in at least two to three paragraphs.

A theme song is “an identifying melody or song typically played at the beginning of a movie, television show, etc.” (Merriam-Webster.com). In essence, it encapsulates the central idea of the show or movie. What theme song would you choose for Riley’s life? What theme song would you choose for your life? Include an excerpt from the song for the “quote,” and in the “question” column, please explain your choice.

Theme	Quote	Question
Destiny v. Choice	“But don’t do it because it’s your destiny. Do it because you <i>choose</i> to.” (p. 153)	Do you think that destiny or choice is more important in how we live our lives?
Good v. Evil	“The tear was shed in joy for the sheer beauty of her children. For the life and light that was born unto this world. Because just like stories, or war, or mortals, even teardrops have within them the capacity for light and dark. For good and bad. It’s what they are used for that makes all the difference.” (p. 261)	If every person has the capacity for good and bad, what makes someone “good” or “bad”? Can people be categorized as one or the other?
Real Potential	“It was peeking out of the shadows as I journeyed down to the Spiritrealm hoping to fix all I’d broken, only to learn that I was the sum of all those I chose to stand with, and that was what really mattered. The real potential was inside me all along.” (p. 267)	Is potential something to be created/achieved or something to be awakened/realized?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Graci Kim is the national best-selling author of *The Last Fallen Star*, the first book in the Gifted Clans trilogy. A Korean-Kiwi diplomat turned author, Graci writes about the magic she wants to see in the world. In a previous life, she used to be a cooking show host, and she once ran a business that turned children's drawings into cuddly toys. When she's not lost in her imagination, you'll find Graci drinking flat whites, eating ramyeon, and most likely hugging a dog (or ideally, many). She lives in New Zealand with her husband and daughter. Find her at www.GraciKim.com and follow her on Twitter @GraciKim and Instagram @GraciKimWrites.



Q & A WITH GRACI KIM ABOUT *THE LAST FALLEN STAR*

Q: Riley and her best friend, Emmett, have a common bond in that they lack magic and are “outsiders” living among the gifted community. In addition, they have suffered loss and share the desire to know their true heritage. Their sense of compassion and empathy toward each other is something to be admired. What message do you want to send to young readers who feel they are on the outside looking in?

A: No matter our background, our experiences, our age, or our heritage, we all yearn to belong. We all yearn to be accepted for who we are. And we all yearn to be loved. It's what it means to be human.

I think the flip side of that is that we all have times when we feel like the outsider. Like we don't belong, or that we aren't accepted. But just like Riley learns, I believe that true belonging needs to start within ourselves first. Because if we can't love ourselves, how can we expect anyone else to?

So my message to any readers who feel like they're on the outside looking in would be to be kind, first and foremost, to yourself. Treat yourself the way you'd want others to treat you. And set an example that you want others to follow. Accept yourself, love yourself, and others will too.

Q: Throughout the book, there is a tension between what Riley knows (the Gom clan and her family) and what she wants to discover (the Horangi clan and her heritage). She comes to accept that the past and present—and the duality in her identity—is her strength. Can you share your experience with biculturalism and how it has shaped your identity?

A: I am a Korean-Kiwi and I grew up in New Zealand. Growing up, there were times where I was bullied and teased for being different. Kids sometimes spat in my lunch, threw stones at me, pulled at the ends of their eyes, and told me to go back to my own country, even though this was my country. It made me think that being a Korean-Kiwi meant that I was stuck being neither Korean *nor* Kiwi. Like Riley, I believed myself to be flawed because of my differences.

But what I learned as I grew up, was that my duality didn't mean I had to choose between one or the other. Or that I was somehow less than a full version of either. In fact, I was both. Fully. It wasn't a maths equation where you have to split the whole into percentages or fractions. Because identities don't work like that. I now know that I can be 100 percent Korean and 100 percent Kiwi, just like Riley learns that she can be many things at the same time.

Watch Graci Kim answer these questions and more here: <https://youtu.be/rS99LyRnvjU>

About the Guide Writer: **Veronica Kim** was born in Seoul, Korea, and raised in NJ in a bilingual, bicultural home. She graduated from Johns Hopkins University where she focused on East Asian Studies and Writing, and holds an MAT from Fairleigh Dickinson University. She is an ESL teacher and enjoys working with her young students and learning about their diverse backgrounds. She loves reading multicultural, inclusive work with her children and looks forward to seeing their generation find their authentic voice.

Many more guides can be found on the Disney • Hyperion website at www.DisneyBooks.com.



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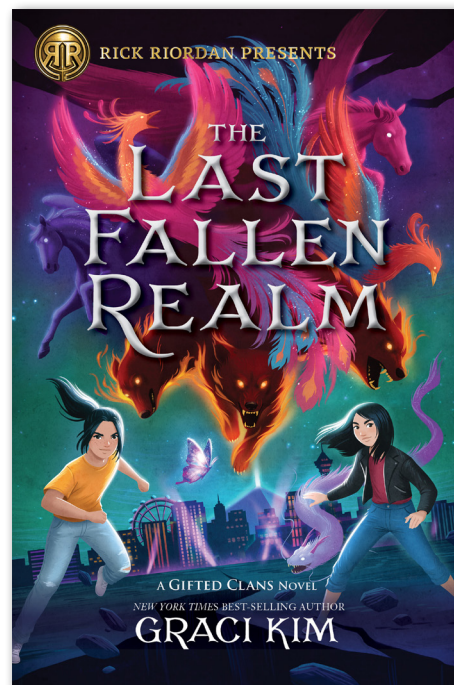
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