

The Warrior Heir HC: 978-0-7868-3916-2 \$17.99

PB: 978-0-7868-3917-9

\$8.99



The Wizard Heir HC: 978-1-4231-0487-2 \$17.99

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The Dragon Heir HC: 978-1-4231-1070-5 \$17.99

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About the author:

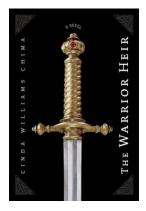
New York Times bestselling author Cinda Williams Chima grew up with talking animals and kick-butt Barbies. She began writing romance novels in junior high school. Her Heir Chronicles young adult contemporary fantasy series includes *The Warrior Heir* (2006), *The Wizard Heir* (2007), and *The Dragon Heir* (2008), all from Hyperion, with more books forthcoming.

Chima's books have received starred reviews in *Kirkus* and *VOYA*, among others. They have been named Book sense and Indie Next picks, an International Reading Association Young Adult Choice, a New York Public Library Book for the Teen Age, to the *Kirkus* Best YA list, and the *VOYA* Editors' Choice, Best Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror, and Perfect Tens lists. Chima was a recipient of the 2008 Lit Award for Fiction from the Cleveland Lit and was named a Cleveland Magazine Interesting Person 2009. She has been active in the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) for more than five years. She lives in Ohio with her family, and is always working on her next novel.

Chima uses her pen like a wand and crafts a wonderfully rich web of magic, while thankfully leaving some dangling threads for subsequent tales."—VOYA

This guide was created by Tracie Vaughn Zimmer, a reading specialist and award-winning children's author, visit her website to find hundreds more.

Many more Teacher's Guides can be found on the Disney-Hyperion website at: disneyhyperionbooks.com.



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About the book:

Before he knew about the Roses, 16-year-old Jack lived an unremarkable life in the small Ohio town of Trinity. Only the medicine he has to take daily and the thick scar above his heart set him apart from the other high-schoolers. Then one day Jack skips his medicine. Suddenly, he is stronger, fiercer, and more confident than ever before. And it feels great—until he loses control of his own strength and nearly kills another player during soccer team tryouts.

Soon, Jack learns the startling truth about himself: He is Weirlind; part of an underground society of magical people who live among us. At the head of this magical society sit the feuding houses of the Red Rose and the White Rose, whose power is determined by playing The Game—a magical tournament in which each house sponsors a warrior to fight to the death. The winning house rules the Weir. As if his bizarre magical heritage isn't enough, Jack finds out that he's not just another member of Weirlind—he's one of the last of the warriors—at a time when both houses are scouting for a player.

Discussion guide:

- 1. Why is it important to know the story of Lee's family in the prologue? What conflict does it reveal to the reader? What happened to Lee?
- 2. How do Jessamine's actions both save the baby's life and doom him in the future? Why does his aunt agree to let him grow up in Trinity?
- 3.Describe what happens during soccer tryouts with Jack and Lobeck. How does this bring unwanted attention to Trinity? How is the medicine that Jack has taken his whole life related to his performance?
- 4. Why does Aunt Linda take Jack on a road trip? What does she hope to find? Describe what happens in the courthouse and in the cemetery in the town of Coal Grove. What do Jack and his friends uncover, literally? Why is Jack the heir of it?
- 5.Develop a list of rules that Jack would need to survive as a Weirland Warrior. Until this point, who has protected him? Now, who will train him for his destiny?
- 6. Why is Jack so valuable to both the White and Red Rose contingents? What will the each side do with him, if possible? Besides Shadow slayer, what other gifts does Jack receive? Would you want any of them?
- 7.Explain the two major altercations before Jack leaves for England. Who attacks him? What are the outcomes? Are both enemies truly defeated or not? How are things not what they seem? How does it show that Trinity is no longer safe for him?
- 8. What happens in England when Jack and Aunt Linda make the required visit to Dr. Longbranch? How does Will barely survive? What do Will and Fitch reveal about Susannah's death? Why is this important to Jack's survival?
- 9. How does everything change in Cumbria? Why does Jack decide to participate in the tournament? How does this choice best serve his family and friends?
- 10. What is the connection between Hastings and Jack's great grandmother, Susannah? How does Hastings hope to change the power structure of the Weirland forever with Jack's participation in the tournament? What happens with both Aunt Linda and Jack's mother?



The Wizard Heir HC: 978-1-4231-0487-2 \$17.99

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About the book:

Sixteen-year-old Seph McCauley has spent the past three years getting kicked out of one exclusive private school after another. And it's not his attitude that's the problem. It's the trail of magical accidents that follow in his wake. Seph is a wizard, orphaned and untrained--and his powers are escalating out of control.

After causing a tragic fire at an after-hours party, Seph is sent to the Havens, a secluded boys' school on the coast of Maine. At first, it seems like the answer to his prayers. Gregory Leicester, the headmaster, promises to train Seph in magic and initiate him into his mysterious order of wizards. But Seph's enthusiasm dampens when he learns that training comes at a steep cost, and that Leicester plans to use his students' powers to serve his own dangerous agenda.

In this companion novel to the exciting fantasy *The Warrior Heir*, everyone's got a secret to keep: Jason Haley, a fellow student who's been warned to keep away from Seph; the enchanter Linda Downey, who knew his parents; the rogue wizard Leander Hastings, and the warriors Jack Swift and Ellen Stephenson. This wizard war is one that Seph may not have the strength to survive.

Pre-reading:

Brainstorm everything you remember from *The Warrior Heir*. Predict what characters, settings and details may be important in book two of the trilogy.

Discussion guide:

- 1. What makes Seph McCauley stand out from the rest of his friends in Toronto? Why do you think Alicia would intentionally drug him at the warehouse party? How does Sephreact to the wizard flame?
- 2.Describe the physical setting of the Havens. What would you enjoy about attending a boarding school like Havens? What would you dislike?
- 3. Compare Trevor and his dining hall friends with Warren Barber and the other Havens alumni. Despite their differences, all of them appear to be hiding secrets. How are those secrets related?
- 4. How does Leicester punish Seph and the other students who refuse to obey him? How does Seph fight back? Who comes to Seph's aid?
- 5. What distinguishes Jason Haley from the other students at Havens? How does he escape the tortures of the Havens? What inspires him to stay?
- 6. Evaluate the power struggle between Leicester and Linda Downey. How is Linda able to prevail? How much of her success depends on magic?
- 7. Assess the reasons why Seph is attracted to Madison Moss. How is Madison different from other girls Seph has known? Why isn't Seph able to use his powers of persuasion on her?
- 8.Do you agree with Linda's choice to keep Seph's existence a secret from everyone? Do you think she regrets this decision? What would you have done in her place?
- 9.Discuss Leander Hastings' assertion that "relationships are a series of small, daily sacrifices." What does he mean by this? Do you agree with him?
- 10.Leicester and D'Orsay propose a new constitution that would establish them as guildmasters for life, reinstate the subservient status of the "lesser guilds," and implement a warrior-breeding program. How would you classify this type of government? How does it compare to the political regimes you've learned about in world history?



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About the book:

The covenant that was meant to keep the wizard wars at bay has been stolen, and Trinity must prepare for attack. Everyone is doing their part – Seph is monitoring the Weirwalls; Jack and Ellen are training their ghostly army; even Anaweir Will and Fitch are setting booby traps around the town's perimeter. But to Jason Haley, it seems like everyone wants to keep him out of the action. He may not be the most powerful wizard in Trinity, but he's prepared to fight for his friends.

When Jason finds a powerful talisman --a huge opal called the Dragonheart--buried in a cave, his role takes on new importance. The stone seems to sing to Jason's very soul, showing him that he is meant for more than anyone guessed. Trinity's guardians take the stone away after they realize that it may be a weapon powerful enough to save them all. Without any significant power of his own, and now without the stone, what can Jason possibly do to help the people he cares about --and to prove his mettle?

Pre-reading:

Make a list of the top ten things someone should know about the Heir Trilogy before reading this title. Which book was your favorite so far? Why? Predict what you think will happen in this story.

Discussion guide:

- 1. What preparations are made to protect Trinity from outside threats? Who participates in these preparations? How does Madison Moss fit into these activities?
- 2. Why do Jason, Nick and the others choose to meet in St. Catherine Church to examine the treasures brought back from Raven's Ghyll? Compare their different reactions to the Dragonheart stone. What feelings does it elicit in them?
- 3.Explain Alicia Middleton's appearance in Trinity. How is she received by those who've met her before? How does Jason feel about her? Where do you believe her ultimate allegiance lies?
- 4. Why does Madison keep avoiding Seth? Do you agree with her reasons not to tell anyone about her "leaking" magic? What would you do in her place? Is there anyone in Trinity you would trust with that information?
- 5. Discuss the painting left behind in Madison's closet. What kind of power does it have? Why did Madison paint it? How does it call into question Madison's allegiance to Seth?
- 6. What secret does Jason discover about Madison's sister while he is in Coalton County? Do you think this secret will play a part in the remaining story? How does this secret affect Madison?
- 7.Examine the motives and actions of Brice Roper. How does he feel about Madison? How does Madison finally drive him away?
- 8. Explain the new wizard alliance that has formed against the Weir in Trinity. How does the Dragonheartplay a role in this? Identify the strengths and weaknesses of this alliance.
- 9. Explain Madison's ultimate transformation and assess her feelings.
- 10. Discuss the following real world terms/issues as they relate to the trilogy: addiction, bullying, tyranny, peer pressure, caste system, genetic engineering.