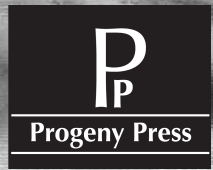


The Two Collars Study Guide

by Carol Diehn

For the novel
by Jeri Massi

CD Version



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The Two Collars Study Guide
A Progeny Press Study Guide
by Carol Diehn
with Rebecca Gilleland

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PO Box 100, Fall Creek, WI 54742-0100.
www.progenypress.com

Printed in the United States of America.

ISBN 978-1-58609-327-3 Book
978-1-58609-274-0 CD
978-1-58609-418-8 Set

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Synopsis

“But the greatest difference between your old Master and me is this: he owned you one way, and I must own you another. You must belong to me—not because I have broken your collar or paid gold for you—but because you have truly come to love me.”

The Two Collars, Jeri Massi’s third book in the series of novels written about the tiny island kingdom of Bracken, introduces us to a humble slave girl named Krea. Krea is a juggler in a traveling troupe led by a wicked master. She is rescued by the Wise Woman from a life of drudgery and slavery.

The Wise Woman nurses Krea back to health with comfort, love, and acceptance. She teaches the little slave girl not only a physician’s trade but honor, loyalty, and compassion.

The Kingdom of Bracken is in danger and Krea finds herself a courier in the service of King Reynald. Reynald’s cousin, Frederick has treacherous plans to overthrow Reynald’s throne. In the midst of her forays as a messenger, Krea finds herself captured by her former master. Once again the Wise Woman comes to her rescue and together they seek to assist Reynald in his plight.

Chapters 17–20

Vocabulary:

Matching:

Match the vocabulary word on the left to its meaning on the right.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. ___ canopied | a. lazy |
| 2. ___ ornately | b. beaten, slapped |
| 3. ___ immaculate | c. a group |
| 4. ___ sedate | d. calm, quiet |
| 5. ___ mute | e. dimming, fading |
| 6. ___ amented | f. compulsions, restraints |
| 7. ___ grieved | g. without blemish, pure |
| 8. ___ waning | h. contend |
| 9. ___ indolent | i. covered, sheltered |
| 10. ___ constraints | j. bewailed, bemoaned |
| 11. ___ succession | k. conversation |
| 12. ___ temperate | l. saddened, sorrowed |
| 13. ___ buffeted | m. order of those in line to a throne |
| 14. ___ deceit | n. unable to speak |
| 15. ___ vie | o. decoratively |
| 16. ___ discourse | p. fraud, deception, lies |
| 17. ___ bevy | q. moderate |

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Questions:

1. Circle three of the following adjectives that best describe King Reynald's character:

kind	cruel	young	awful
proud	fair	mean	caring

2. What upset Krea at the royal dinner? What did Prince Peridan do about it? What does this tell you about Prince Peridan?
3. Why does the Mistress say that she must teach Krea to be free? Do you think it is difficult for Krea to accept the idea of being the Wise Woman's daughter? Explain your answer.

Read Galatians 3:26–4:7. What are some of the differences between being a slave and being a son or daughter? What are some things that might be similar?

4. Why does King Reynald still care for Frederick even though Frederick opposes him?

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5. What was Frederick taught as a little boy? What does this say about the things we learn as small children?

6. Krea wasn't sure if she could be merry at a table with just Reynald and Peridan, for she was nervous around royalty, but when she met them later she found herself perfectly at ease. Why is she at ease? How is her self-confidence changing?

7. How does Reynald decide to try to resolve his conflict with Frederick? Why does he try to avoid war? How is Krea involved in King Reynald's secret plan?

Talk about it:

8. Krea often struggles with feeling worthless because of her previous status of being a slave. Yet she is accepted and even loved by royalty. How is this like our acceptance in Christ?

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9. Read John 3:16, 1 John 4:9–11, John 15:13–15, and Ephesians 2: 8, 9. Discuss the fact that we cannot be good enough for the love of God, but God considers us so valuable that He freely extends His love and forgiveness to us. He provided a way to Him that cannot be earned by our “good deeds” or works. What do people do to try and earn their way to heaven? What does the Bible say is the only way to God?

Writing and Art Project:

Write a one-page paper describing the castle and castle grounds. Use your imagination and creativity and add your own details of what you think it might be like along with those found in the book. Include in this description the dress of the royalty and others attending the dinner table. Draw or paint a picture, or create a 3-dimensional scene depicting the courtyard, castle, or dinner hall. Use books about castles and medieval times for ideas. (Model castles, villages, and cathedrals are available through some sources.)

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10. She lives with the Wise Woman for three years, and learns slowly to love and trust her. She learns how good the Woman is and how much the Woman loves her.

11. Answers will vary, but should mention that duty is appropriate when we don't feel like doing what is right, but know that we should do it anyhow.

Chapters 9–12

Vocabulary:

1. clumsy; 2. invincible; 3. understandable; 4. uncertain; 5. cheerful; 6. abandon; 7. encounter; 8. hurry; 9. dry, active; 10. well-kept.

Questions:

1. To inflict harm in return for a wrong. The Wise Woman does not allow her personal dislike of a person or situation to prevent her from being a physician to all and helping them. Do not take revenge, but help your enemy. Love your enemies. Turn the other cheek.

2. To make up for having ignored his plea for a drink.

3. Tellrinetor. Descriptive words will vary. Krea keeps her distance from him because she wasn't sure how much she trusted him. He had been a rebel soldier and a deserter.

4. Answers will vary.

5. Answers will vary.

6. Act = a deed, to exert oneself; React = to respond to a stimulus. Action is rational and thought about. A decision. Reaction is emotional and not under control. The difference is that in action, one is in control; in reaction, the stimulus is in control.

Chapters 13–16

Vocabulary:

Using Vocabulary Words: 1. the errand of a messenger, job, duty; 2. raid, sortie, or mission; 3. delay, tarry; 4. shifted direction, swerved, turned; 5. receded, declined, waned; 6. disgusting, repugnant; 7. attacked; 8. soaked, drenched; 9. authorized; 10. freedom; 11. someone who searches into the reasons and nature of things; 12. weak, fragile; 13. skimpy, meager, sparse; 14. framework of crossed wood or metal; 15. heroic acts.

Questions:

1. There was a roaring in her ears and despair and grief struck her so hard she was nearly sick.

2. He held her to keep her from falling. He hushes her so that they don't beat her. He pretends to teach her to build the fire and cook so that everyone will leave her alone.

3. Piper notices that she talks as though she were a princess or lady. She acts free. The Master notices that she acts free-born and knows about medicine. He shrewdly guessed that knowing medicine and being a spy made her feel important.

4. Jolly puts a firebrand in the place of a cup she reaches for.

5. She knows how to make willow tea when the robber band almost all come down with fever. She realizes it is her duty to stay and help them. She was bound to help both friend and enemy.

6. They were twisted. The things the Master said were partially true, but his accusations against the Wise Woman planted doubt in Krea by causing her to question the Wise Woman's love.

7. The Master is the deceiver. He is trying to make Krea give up and despair.

8. Obligation, service required. The Mistress had bound her not to take a private revenge, and to help both friend and enemy.

9. Piper tells her to go for more willow bark down by the south side of the causeway and take his knife. Her Mistress finds her and they swim the River.

10. The Wise Woman takes Krea across the River, gets a fire going, puts Krea in a dry cloak, examines her scarred hand and tells her what a good job she did treating it. She praises Krea for helping the robbers, then she tells of when she saw Krea sold as a little girl. She tells Krea that she followed her and that she loves her. She wanted to know Krea and she wanted Krea to rejoice in having her love.

11. Contrasts and comparisons will vary.