

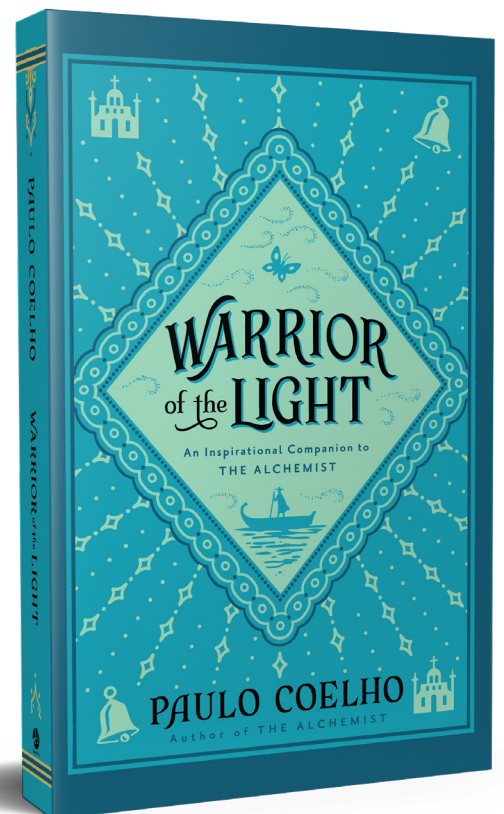
READING GROUP GUIDE

Paulo Coelho's *Warrior of the Light* is a series of inspirational thoughts about a Warrior and how the Warrior approaches life and battle, as told by a mysterious woman to a young boy, after he has learned to listen to the world around him. Each short passage invites us to keep fighting the Good Fight.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What must change for the boy to finally be able to hear the bells at the bottom of the sea? What lesson do you take from his realization?
2. What are some of the defining characteristics of the Warrior of the Light? Which do you share? Which ones would you like to cultivate?
3. Why do you think Coelho chose to use a warrior as his central figure? How do you respond to the metaphor of life as battle or “the Good Fight”?
4. Warriors of the Light are far from perfect; they make mistakes, hurt others, grow depressed and suffer anxiety and defeat. In fact, Coelho writes, “That is why they are Warriors of the Light. Because they make mistakes, because they ask themselves questions, because they are looking for a reason they are sure to find it” (p. 12). He also writes that our mistakes are not all we are. “That is why he is a Warrior of the Light, because he has been through all this and yet has never lost hope of being better than he is” (p. 21). What does it mean to you that a Warrior is full of faults?
5. What is the “touch of madness” that the Warrior has? How does this touch of madness manifest in your life?
6. How does a Warrior of the Light view other people?
7. One of the Warrior’s strengths is listening. He listens to Evil, which wears Evil out so it cannot follow him (p. 63) and to his opponent, which persuades the opponent not to fight after all (p. 67). Why is listening such a powerful tool? Who will you really listen to today?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

8. The Warrior is always aware that there is “Someone” (p. 71) much greater than him, that he is only “a instrument of the Light” (p. 69). How does that understanding guide him?
9. What does the Warrior’s sword signify?
10. What does it mean that the Warrior “knows how to lose” (p. 101)? Why is losing a necessary part of the Warrior’s journey?
11. The Warrior does not waste his thoughts on emotional rubbish (p. 121) but focuses instead on “the small miracles of daily life” (p. 120). What are some small miracles of daily life you can delight in today?
12. Why is this book, as the boy points out (p. 135), filled with contradictions?
13. What has this book taught you about fighting the Good Fight in your own life?

