

Reading Group Guide

The Lone Wolf

Wolf Pack

1. How would such early childhood events shape the outlook of Kiyuga and Anagalisgi? Kiyuga knew his parents and saw them die, while Anagalisgi would have no memory of them. Consider Kiyuga's Promise. What does Kiyuga's Promise mean to each of them? Is there any significance to the way it lasts through the years? Do you believe it has any bearing on later events?
2. What is the significance of Anagalisgi's status as a dreamer? How does he cope with it at such an early age? Do you believe his visits to the local church have any influence on how he sees his dreams and himself? How does he try to reconcile his people's traditional beliefs with Christian beliefs? What is the significance of his vision of the woodpecker, and is it really just a vision?
3. How do the brothers feel about leaving their home and moving to Chota? What politics are at play and do you believe they are capable of understanding them? How does Diwedalohi's status as a Beloved Woman influence her decision to move? How about her relation to Gvnagadoga?
4. How does Kiyuga feel about being considered a great warrior? Do you believe this gives him a goal to shoot for, or a burden to struggle with? How does he deal with this, compared to Anagalisgi and his dreams?
5. Do you agree with Kiyuga, that Anagalisgi doesn't spend enough time in the waking world? Do you believe he is understandably concerned, or ignorantly aloof? Do you think their age difference plays any part, as Kiyuga begins to mature while his brother remains a boy? Is Anagalisgi truly just a boy, or perhaps only in appearance?
6. Why does Gvnagadoga not want to declare a side with the Europeans? Why do you think he gives the French permission to build their fort? Do you think Anagalisgi's vision affected the chief's decision later on?
7. How would you describe the change in attitude around Chota when livestock is introduced to the people? What are the traditional beliefs about nature? Are the people willing to set aside some of these beliefs in the name of survival? What do the hunters think about it? What does this say about their willingness to adapt to new ideas? Is it a good idea, and do you believe that introducing more of the livestock and homesteading concepts is helpful or hurtful toward later events?
8. How do the Aniyvwa'i react to the British also allying with the Aninvdawegi? How does Kiyuga react to seeing his people get drunk at the fort? Why do you think he remains sober? Do you think it was intentional on Kettle's part, in order to force an advantage over them? Was Kiyuga's response to Kettle appropriate, and how does it shape him going forward? How does his attitude change from the beginning of the expedition to the end?
9. How would you describe the relationship between the Aniyvwa'i and the British? Is it built on trust and mutual understanding? What does each bring to the table? How could they have gotten along better? Was there any way for the Aniyvwa'i to come out on top? How does this affect the decisions of the various chiefs and warriors?
10. Why does Saloli break with Atagulkalu? Do you believe it a better decision, or was it made too rashly? How would such a decision look to the Europeans? Do you believe Atagulkalu right in his plans to send

Aganstata and a contingent force after him?

11. How is Saloli persuaded to go to the lower towns and attack the Anikusi? Do you believe Aganstata or Atagulkalu were acting deceitfully in some way? Why would Aganstata ask for forgiveness from Anagalisgi?
12. How does Kiyuga feel about the impending attack? What is expected of him, and what does he expect of himself? What are his thoughts and emotions while the attack is underway? Does he feel he did the best he could to represent himself? His clan? His people? What is the significance of Aganstata praising him in front of Atagulkalu?
13. What is the significance of each of the elements of the courtship ritual? What about the wedding? How does Kiyuga feel about being married? What changes in his life? How does having a child change him?
14. What does Anagalisgi think about his brother getting married? What do you make of his premonition? Do you think he could be mistaken? Do you think it was wise to foretell of it to Kiyuga months in advance, or did it only cause undue stress?
15. What do Anagalisgi's duties say about his standing among the priests? Among the people? Do you believe it is justified treatment? What do you make of the conversation with the chaplain and the ensuing events surrounding the Raven Mocker? Is there any resemblance to the shadow creature he saw earlier? Do you believe it was wise to withhold Advtowa's and Ayohli Tsiyo's deaths from Kiyuga? How does Anagalisgi react to Kiyuga's harsh words?
16. What do the Aniyvwa'i think of the slow progress of the British? What do they think of the army in general? Do you believe the Aniyvwa'i were underappreciated on the road? Under-utilized in battle? What do you make of Grant's decision to attack, and the resulting losses?
17. Do you believe Kvhe is justified in his remarks against the British? What do you make of the decision to disarm and detain the Aniyvwa'i? Why do the British then ask them to stay and fight?
18. What is the significance of Anagalisgi's vision (bear, four crows, twenty-three crows)? How does it play out once the Aniyvwa'i leave Fort Ligonier? What is the significance of his vision of the horsemen and the burning towns? How do you believe this prophecy will play out?
19. Why do Saloli and Amadoya attack the British? Why do you believe it is so easy for them to recruit warriors to their cause? What do the various chiefs and senior warriors think of this? How do highly varied reactions among the Aniyvwa'i help or hurt their attempts to defeat the British and/or maintain peace?
20. What does Anagalisgi make of the conjuring of Nathan and Andrew? Does he believe it good or evil? How does he expect to use it? How do the beliefs of the Author and the Akari compliment or conflict with his inherent worldview and religious beliefs? What do the others think about it?
21. What do you believe Lyttelton's motivation and ultimate goal by taking the envoy hostage? How and why does his treatment of them change between Charleston and Fort Prince George? How do the Aniyvwa'i react to this change? How do they react to the treaty and the release of a few hostages?
22. What do you think Aganstata hoped to accomplish with the ruse? How does the garrison react? What does Kiyuga make of the unusual manner of escape? What do the Aniyvwa'i think of the sorcery? How do Nathan and Andrew react to their treatment in Keowi?
23. How do the Aniyvwa'i react to Fort Prince George? Is their desire for revenge understandable?

Justifiable? Why does Atagukalu still call for peace? How do the Aniyvwa'i react to this? Do you think he is being too fanciful? Do you think his exile was warranted or too far? How might things have been different if he'd been merely removed from his position but permitted to stay?

24. How do the Aniyvwa'i warriors react to the sorcery when taught? How is it utilized in the Battle of Etchoe? Do you believe the warriors could have won without it? Why or why not? Do you believe there could be other soldiers with this sorcery? What would battle look like if both sides were well-trained in its use? Do you believe it would have saved Saloli? How is his death honored?
25. The Aniyvwa'i believe that Earth is an island upon a great ocean, suspended between the Upper World and the Lower World. How do they react to the idea of there being more islands? What do you make of Anagalisgi's plan to leave for one of these new islands? Do you believe it is a good or bad idea to separate the people? How do the people react?
26. How do the warriors each react to the new island? In what ways is it different than home? In what ways is it similar? What do you make of Anagalisgi's dream about the bowl and the wolf pup? What do you make of the story of the stone wolf in the ridge and the people it once protected?
27. Do you think the Aniyvwa'i ever stood a chance against the British invasion? Would better training in the sorceries have helped? What do you think is the biggest flaw in their plans for counterattack?
28. What do the Aniyvwa'i make of their impending defeat? Do you think it would have been better to surrender earlier? What do you make of their last stand? What are Kiyuga's and Anagalisgi's roles, and do they do them well?
29. Why does Kiyuga leave Anagalisgi? Do you think this was a wise decision? What do you think would have happened if he had stayed and tried to help his brother? How does his decision affect him later on?
30. Why does Anagalisgi sacrifice himself for Adahi? What do you believe is his role as the guardian of the door between worlds?