

Discussion Questions for *Book 1: Thaddeus of Beewicke*

Book Club Leaders ... contact Louis to participate in a special meeting to discuss the book; the concepts; and the evolution of the series.

1. Silvestrus contacts Thaddeus' family to procure their support to allow Thaddeus to go to the College of Sorcery. As they resist, he engages his magical powers. What's the ethics of Silvestrus tricking the family into allowing Thaddeus to go with him?
2. The Prophecy woven throughout impacts the children of Thaddeus. Marriage commonly occurred in the early teens in an alternate world of the 10th century. What kind of prophecy would take advantage of young children? Is it abuse? Is saving the world a valid excuse?
3. As Thaddeus is becoming his own person, what traits and behaviors must he take on to successfully challenge his elders? Risks?
4. The key to sorcery is the power of belief. What ways can "belief" be reinforced and supported?
5. Asullus is a talking mule. Mules are normally sterile. How is he able to seduce the unsuspecting? How does that compare with what people do?
6. Thaddeus is a simple boy when recruited. His new friends from vastly different backgrounds become close, like brothers. What were the challenges that created the bonds between them?
7. As Thaddeus matures, he fathers four children. What he really wants to have is a lifetime relationship? Can that work?
8. The Tree Monster offers protection in exchange for her children. Was it worth it?
9. Vulnerability is addressed throughout. Do the main characters have to be sneaky to accomplish their means ... or can they do so with being straightforward?

- 10.** How much does one have to sacrifice for the greater good? Would Thaddeus and his friends been better off if they had not gone to the College of Sorcery?

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