



Stealing Death by Janet Lee Carey

Ages: 12 Up

Summary:

When fire steals his family from him, Kipp is left with only his little sister to protect as best he can, and he's determined that death will not come to her—or to the girl he loves but can never approach.

But who would dare to master death? As Kipp finds out, it's complicated, and possession of the soul sack is no guarantee of success. *Dragon's Keep* author Janet Lee Carey has crafted a stirring and original fantasy set in a harsh and beautiful desert landscape, in which a young man who has lost everything finds the strength within himself to care for those he loves—and to allow those he cannot keep close to him to take a path he cannot follow.

Discussion Questions:

1. Chapter One: Why is Kipp so set on capturing the wild horse?
2. Chapter Four: Kipp decides to take the Sanuu Witch's magic potion to steal the Gwali's soul sack. Why does he want the sack? Would you have made the same decision?
3. Chapter Nine: Do you think it's fair for Kipp and Jilly to have to work for the landlord, Sor Tunassi, to pay off their father's debt?
4. Chapter Twenty-four: Why does Kipp leave the bone thrower before he's paid for the snake bones? Do you understand the way Kipp feels?
5. Chapter twenty-five and Twenty-six: What do you think about the shooting at the fair? Was it an accident or did Zalika do it on purpose?
6. Chapter Thirty-three: Kipp tries a daring plan to rescue Zalika. Would you have done the same thing in his shoes?
7. Chapter Thirty-five: Zalika says she understands why Kipp had to leave her the night she was injured. Does she really understand why he did it? Why does her explanation upset Kipp?

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8. Chapter Thirty-eight: Kipp and Sor Twam enter the dragon cave. What is Kipp looking for?
9. Chapter Forty-one: The mistress in the temple tells Kipp to “Go,” and “change.” Does this have more than one meaning?
10. Chapter Forty-four: Kipp admits his part in the family fire. How does he feel about his mistake now?
11. Chapter Forty-four: Why does Kipp want to take this dangerous journey? What does he hope to find?
12. Chapter Forty-six: Kipp feels ready to do what his teacher asks him to do. Why?

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About the author:

Janet Lee Carey is well known for her rich and engaging fantasy novels, including *Dragon's Keep*, which received a starred review from *School Library Journal* that stated, “Nonstop action may keep readers glued to this page-turner, but strong writing and character development are what will make it linger in their memories.” She lives in the Pacific Northwest.

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