

Ranger's Apprentice – Discussion Questions

General Questions:

Did you enjoy the book (or whatever part you read)? Why or why not?

Did you have a favorite character and, if so, who was it and why?

A movie studio has purchased the rights to this book and there will – hopefully - be a movie made soon. Who would you cast in it and what scenes would you make sure made it into the movie?

Did the ending of this book make you want to read the other books in the series or in Mr. Flanagan's second series *Brotherband*?

In-Depth Questions:

Mr. Flanagan originally wrote this series to get his young son interested in reading. Do you think that kids who are new to reading, or who have not enjoyed reading up until now, would like these stories? Do the training and battle scenes draw the reader in or is there so much detail that a young reader would get overwhelmed?

Sometimes a symbol in a book can actually represent some characteristics of a main character. Do you think the description of Will's knife is similar to his character (plain in appearance but actually superior to the swords of other warriors)?

Did the discussion of bullying bother you? Do you think it is acceptable to tell kids that they just "have to go through it" or do you think Horace should have told someone what was happening at Battleschool? Do you think that bullies are often people who were once themselves bullied (like Horace)?

Will is an unusual hero because he is small in size and does not have any magical or mystical abilities. What message do you think Mr. Flanagan was trying to convey about heroism and bravery? Would Will have been a more convincing hero if he had been six feet tall or if he had powers like Harry Potter?