

READING GROUP GUIDE

The Transmigrant by Kristi Saare Duarte

1. What external factors (culture, religion, family, Roman occupation, community, etc.) helped shape Yeshua's character in his childhood?
2. How did Yeshua's mother influence him and the story as a whole?
3. What were some of the key ways that Yeshua developed as a character during his journey?
4. Does Yeshua's dream of becoming a priest help him or hinder him? How else could he have fulfilled this aspiration besides running away from home?
5. Every time Yeshua finds what he thinks he yearns for — monkhood in Sindh, a teacher of Hinduism in Benares, and a monk again in Kapilavatthu—he breaks the rules and is cast out of the community. Would he have learned more if he stayed in one place?
6. Is it OK to break rules if you don't agree with them? When is it acceptable and when is it not?
7. Like Yeshua, have you experienced any situations where you had to learn the same life lesson over and over until you changed your perspective?
8. Do you agree with Yeshua's statement, "We are all one"? How do you interpret the meaning?
9. Several women play a significant role in Yeshua's life: his mother, Ramaa, Pema, and Mariamne. Which woman resonated most with you? Why?
10. Which aspects in the book interested you the most? Which shocked you the most? Why do you think you reacted the way you did?
11. What do you think about the idea of a human deity with flaws and with basic needs, someone who must journey in life in order to evolve? What does your religion or belief say in this respect?
12. How did you feel about relating to Yeshua as a human being instead of someone the Christian world regards as a deity?
13. How has *The Transmigrant* transformed you or your belief system?
14. What did you like the most about the book? And the least?
15. If you were making a movie of this book, who would you cast as the characters?