



# LEGACY AND THE QUEEN

CREATED BY  
**ROBE BRYANT**

WRITTEN BY  
**ANNIE MATTHEW**

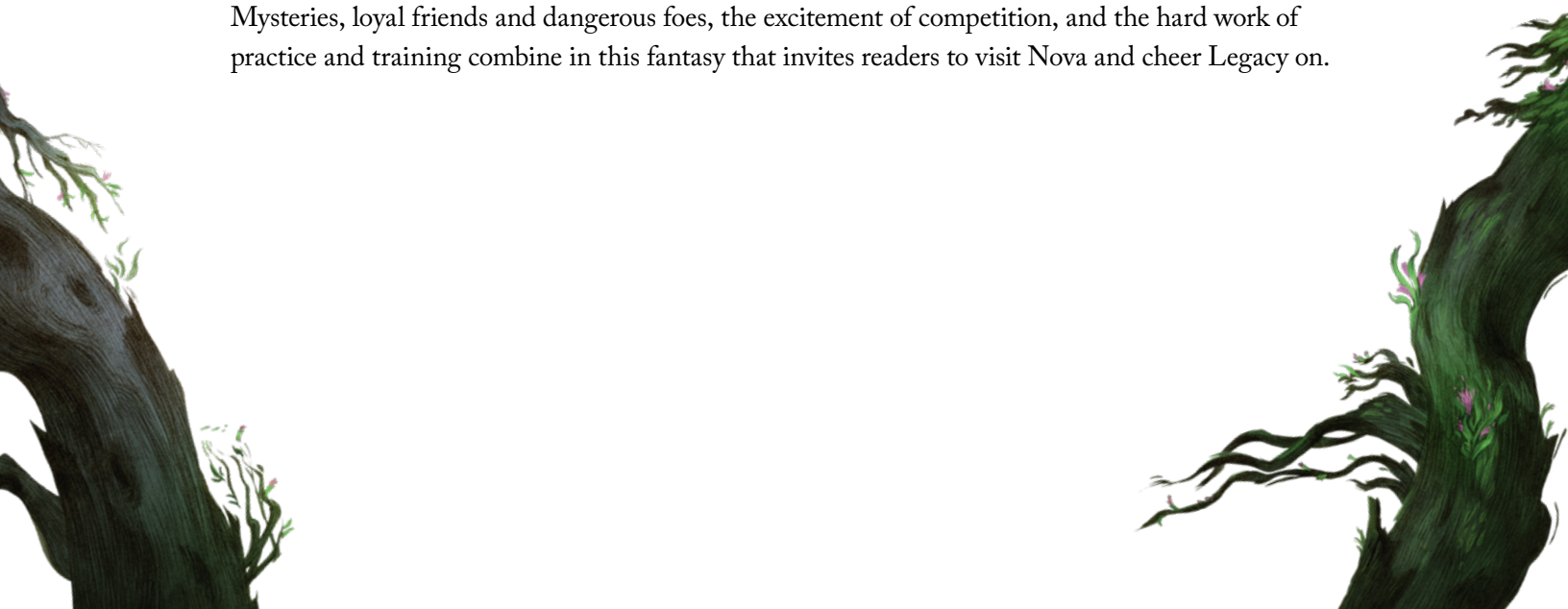
## BOOK DISCUSSION GUIDE

Tennis means everything for the residents of the magical republic of Nova, especially for twelve-year-old Legacy, a poor girl from the provinces. It is the only thing that gets her through the long days taking care of the other kids at the orphanage.

When Silla, the ruler of Nova, announces this year's annual tennis tournament, Legacy knows this is her chance—her one opportunity to train and to compete with the elites, and perhaps to win the nationals.

What Legacy has yet to discover is that the other players have something beyond better skills and more money. In Nova, tennis can unlock magic—magic that Legacy's competitors have been training in for months. Will Legacy find that magic in her passion for the game and use it to discover her true self and save all that is dear to her?

Mysteries, loyal friends and dangerous foes, the excitement of competition, and the hard work of practice and training combine in this fantasy that invites readers to visit Nova and cheer Legacy on.





## BEFORE READING

*On the morning of her twelfth birthday, Legacy Petrin woke from a dream about playing tennis with a winged racket. (Page 1)*

You probably were familiar with the word “legacy” before you started reading **LEGACY AND THE QUEEN**. The author tells you from the very first sentence that, in this book, Legacy is a girl. And the author chose her name carefully.

The word “legacy” means:

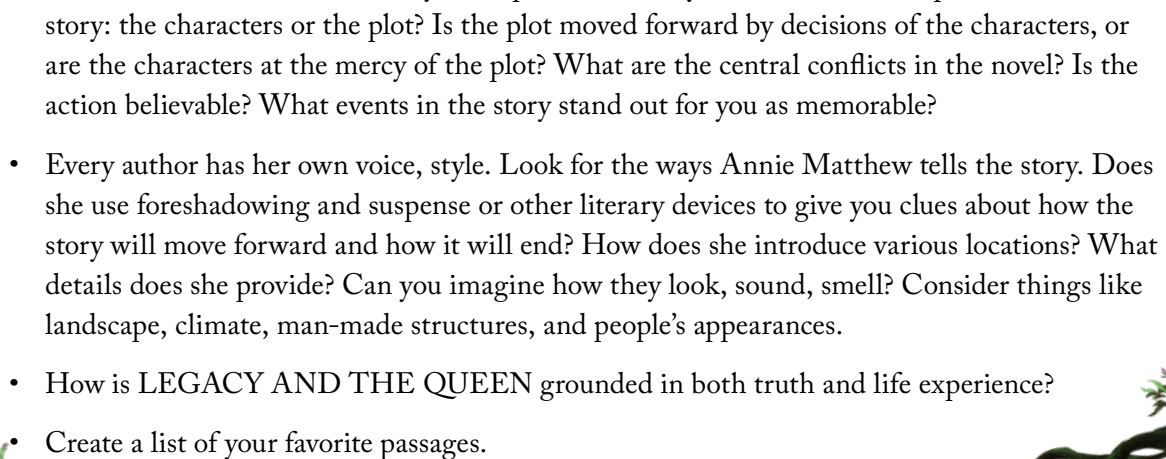
- a gift by will especially of money or other personal property
- something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or predecessor or from the past
- a candidate for membership in an organization (such as a school or fraternal order) who is given special status because of a familial relationship to a member

Keep these meanings in mind as you read the novel. Talk about how the meanings of the word influence your response to the character Legacy. What story elements and what personality characteristics enrich the meaning of her name?

*She dropped her racket . . . but it wasn't just temper, Legacy thought while she moved to the other service box. Something was still wrong with her racket. (Page 127)*

## WHILE YOU'RE READING

To help you get ready for talking with your book group about **LEGACY AND THE QUEEN**, think about some of these questions as you read the novel. Make notes so you can bring your ideas to the group.

- **LEGACY AND THE QUEEN** is a fantasy set in its own world: Nova. As you read, take note about how Nova works and its structure. Who holds the power within the world of Nova? It might be a single ruler, such as a king or queen in a monarchical government; it might be a high council of magical people; it might be a religious entity. Keep track of other details. What are its people like? Are there distinct groups or classes? How does society operate?
  - There's a lot of action in the story—the plot. What do you think is more important to the story: the characters or the plot? Is the plot moved forward by decisions of the characters, or are the characters at the mercy of the plot? What are the central conflicts in the novel? Is the action believable? What events in the story stand out for you as memorable?
  - Every author has her own voice, style. Look for the ways Annie Matthew tells the story. Does she use foreshadowing and suspense or other literary devices to give you clues about how the story will move forward and how it will end? How does she introduce various locations? What details does she provide? Can you imagine how they look, sound, smell? Consider things like landscape, climate, man-made structures, and people's appearances.
  - How is **LEGACY AND THE QUEEN** grounded in both truth and life experience?
  - Create a list of your favorite passages.
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## AFTER READING

Here are questions to get the conversation going when your reading group meets.

- Talk about the title of the book. What did you think the novel would be about when you picked up the book? Did the title intrigue you and urge you into the novel? How do you see the book's title relating to the story? Why do you think it was chosen?
  - Talk about the characters of the novel—the main characters and the secondary ones. Are they believable? Why or why not? Who are the heroes/heroines? Who are the villains? Do you approve of their decisions and behavior? Describe their struggles. Give specific instances. What roles do the secondary characters play in the lives of the main characters and in the action? Again, be specific. Which characters did you relate to?
  - Explore each character's journey from the beginning of the book to the end.
  - Which parts of the book stand out to you? Are there any quotes, passages, or scenes you found particularly compelling? Read one of your favorite passages aloud to the group.
  - Discuss how the story made you feel. Did you have different emotional responses to various situations in the novel? Share examples with your group.
  - How do you think the story might have been different if another character were telling it?
  - What are the themes and central ideas of the story? How does the author develop the themes of magic, tennis, friendship, trust, and hard work/training vs. magic?
  - What do you think the author is hoping you are going to take away from your reading of *LEGACY AND THE QUEEN*?
  - How does the author use symbolism? What concrete, specific objects does she use to represent abstract ideas? What colors, names, settings stand out? What do they represent?
  - If you had the opportunity to interview the author, what would you ask her?
  - Talk about how the novel ends. Does everyone in your book group agree about the ending? Were you surprised by the ending? Were you satisfied or disappointed? Did it feel earned? Is anything left unresolved or ambiguous?
  - What do you imagine the characters' lives will be like after the end of the story?
  - From Hollywood to Netflix, books are being adapted more and more frequently for screens big and small. Who would you cast in an adaptation?
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