

DREAMS SHOULD NOT BE BROKEN
FIONA LONESTAR MacLEAN
by Judith Fraser

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Fiona runs away in frustration when her father forgets her birthday and her parents fight. What do you do when you feel your parents don't think your needs are important?
2. Gramma tells Fiona that Father's anger may not be about her. It could be about him. Do you think this is true?
3. When someone does something wrong in Fiona's family all the children are hit with a belt. How do you think children should be disciplined?
4. Father is against Gramma and Aunt Dawn teaching Fiona Native American Rituals and Ceremonies. Do you think learning family Ceremonies and Rituals are important? What Ceremonies and Rituals do you have in your family?
5. Fiona is quarantined with a disease. That meant no contact, no television and no cell phones. How do you think it would feel to be separated from your friends for a long period of time?
6. Dancing is important to Fiona. It gives her a sense of accomplishment. What do you have interests in that expand your good feelings about yourself?
7. In families where one or both of the parents suffer from alcoholism, drugs, gambling and other addictions there is often a great deal of chaos. Sometimes promises are broken, angry outbursts occur and children are forced to take on a sense of responsibility that is beyond their years. What else might occur in a family where there is an addiction?
8. Clubs can be important. They often teach skills, good conduct and help to develop an awareness of others among additional positive outcomes. What do you think of the "Big Momma's," the club Fiona joined?
9. Fiona had difficulty making friends at her new school. What do you think is the best way to make a friend? What is the best way to be a good friend?
10. Margaret lied about herself and blamed Fiona for being the one trying on wedding gowns. Have you ever had anyone lie about you? Have you ever lied about someone else? What was the outcome of that lie?
11. Do you have negative ideas about Puberty? How did you learn about it?
12. Have you ever lost a family pet? How did you grieve that loss?
13. Have you ever lost a family member or a dear friend? How did you grieve that loss?
14. Fiona's Puberty Ceremony is an acknowledgment of all the cultures that came before her. What cultures are you a part of? How do your ancestors show up in who you are?
15. Fiona's Ceremony was also about learning to listen to her Inner Wisdom. What happens to you when you tune into your Inner Wisdom? It can be as simple as knowing who's calling you on the phone before you answer it, or having an inner sense about someone else's feelings without asking.