

The Pirate of Panther Bay

By SR Staley

(Southern Yellow Pine Publishing, 2014)

Discussion Questions: Ethnicity and Gender

1. Few examples of women pirates exist in history, although there were several notable and important exceptions. Why do think this was true?
2. How does Isabella's gender influence the people around her? Jean-Michel? Juan Carlos? Carl? Stiles?
3. How does Isabella's background as a slave influence her decisions as commander of the Marèe Rouge?
4. Is Isabella conscious of her gender?
5. What does the story say about gender dependency, if anything?
6. How does Isabella's background as a slave influence the people around her? The pirates on the Marèe Rouge? Juan Carlos? Rosa? Jean-Michel?
7. Runaway and escaped slaves were common on pirate ships. Why do you think this was true? What benefits did a pirate ship have over staying on land and hiding in the jungles?
8. Juan Carlos sees Rosa and Isabella as similar yet wildly different. How? Who would make the better captain of a pirate ship?
9. Some of characterized Isabella as a "modern" woman. Is this an accurate description? What characteristics make up a modern woman? Would these characteristics be more or less accepted among a pirate crew?
10. Do you think some characters appeal to boys more than girls? If so, which ones, and why?
11. How would you describe Isabella's relationship with Jacob? What role did he play in her life? Does this differ significantly from Jean-Michel?