

The Legend of Greywinds Parent Guide

Part 5 – *Storms of Assiral*

Consider taking some time to bond with your child using some or all these prompts.

1. Why did you choose your child's name?
2. What special gifts and talents do you see in your child?
3. What special gifts and talents does your child see in you?
4. What element would you associate with your child: water, earth, fire, air, or storm?
5. What about you?
6. How can you two use your strengths to enhance each other's lives?
7. What fantasy clan name would you create for your family?
8. Where would your clan live?
9. What would your environment and living quarters look like?
10. What's the purpose of your clan?
11. How does your clan dress?
12. How is your clan important to other clans in your world?
13. What do you eat?
14. Is your clan known for some special talent or gift?
15. Do you have any rituals specific to your clan?

Have fun with this. Create a crest for your clan. If you're ambitious, make a costume or a talisman. Be creative. Help them use their imagination in a constructive way, discover unique traits, and show them they are part of something special—a clan of their own.

This is the last segment of this Parent Guide. May it assist you in your role as a parent. And again, it has been an honor to be your guide through the world of Yerg and I thank you once again for allowing me to pay it forward through you.

May the grey winds guide you and keep you safe.

--Annie M

Are They Up for the Challenge?

Now comes the time when each girl must overcome her own challenge without the help of the others. The evil magic grows deadlier every day. Time is running out. Little do they know that when they remove the last key from its resting place, it will unleash a terror frozen in time for thousands of years.

The battle to prevent the annihilation of their world comes with great personal sacrifice. Love, trust, honor, joy, conviction, change, and balance unite as these teens lay their lives on the line to save their world.

Magical moments occur all around you, every day. You simply need to be in the moment to see them.

— Annie M

What Can I Do with This Guide?

Part 4 – Zaria, was about personal growth on various levels for each of the girls. In Part 5 – Assiral, they're challenged to take definitive action, even when fear and doubt haunt them. A deep desire to save their world, faith that none of them will give up, and an understanding that inaction is certain death become their driving forces. The focus here is on the greater good, pushing past limiting beliefs, and letting your inner light shine. Today's youth need these same characteristics to turn their dreams into reality. Is there such a thing as too many positive role models?

You will find an overview of each chapter giving you highlights of the content. Following the synopses, you will see a quick reference index where you will find terms, such as revelations, visions, recognition, with page references for you to use as teaching moments or points of discussion.

Should you find a passage in this or one of the other books that you would like added to an index, email us the heading (existing or new), the page or pages of the passage, and your reason for wanting it added to the index. We will review your suggestion and may add it to the next revision.

Now, onto the battle that will define the future for the Chosen Ones and their world!

Part 5 – *Storms of Assiral*

Reyacu Nomentis Dayaday

Change comes early, Change comes late

Change will come as you sit and wait.

Like it or not, you are not immune

Your life will change, so get in tune.

Embrace your life as it shifts gears;

Change can bring joy and sometimes tears.

Change is exciting; the possibilities abound

Stop trying to control it—you'll never win a single round.

How many times have you worried about change?

Only to realize what you feared is now estranged.

So, you move on and tomorrow is now today

Embrace Change—say Reyacu Nomentis Dayaday.

--Annie Morecambe

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My Take on It

I believe that desire, conviction, and definitive action, mixed with compassion, and integrity are key to a successful life. *The Legend of Greywinds* series advocates all that and more for readers of any age. When you choose to create your own future, keep a vigilant eye. There are many willing to help you along the way. And remember, your path is yours alone, but the road is large enough for others to join you now and again.

Until our next encounter...

Part 5 – *Storms of Assiral*

Chapter 1 – Leaving Zaria

Under cover of night, Jada and Jeti quietly leave the others behind, heading for the Assiral Plains. The young Listener is concerned her friends may be angry with her. She is terribly frightened as they move closer to the border. Jada is exhausted; they've been walking for nearly eight hours. Jeti escorts her to a cave; she needs to rest before they venture out into the wasteland.

Chapter 2 – Parting Ways

Jada's absence goes undetected for hours because the girls are so entrenched in developing their plan of action. They too are tired. When calls for Jada go unanswered, Garam walks to the lean-to thinking she may be there. All he finds is a letter that Carena reads to everyone. Fiera is furious. This changes all their plans.

Chapter 3 – Fiera

Fiera attempts to find Jada, but to no avail. She is enraged. As Protector, she believes she is responsible for the safety of all her companions. Fiera is not happy about the others going out on their own either, but Jada's innocence makes her most vulnerable in Fiera's eyes. Nonetheless, Jada and Jeti manage to elude Fiera. She gives up her search and heads for Edana.

Chapter 4 – Carena

Carena struggles to find the portal that can take her from Zaria to Meena without the need of crossing the Assiral Plains. She has bits and pieces of her puzzle, but they don't fit together. Teru provides information that may help. She heads to the Circle of Serenity. On the way, storm swirls pop up. She and her horse have nowhere to hide. While attempting to protect her horse, she unknowingly utilizes a new hidden gift.

Chapter 5 – Lexa

Exhausted from maintaining her holographic projection for so long, Lexa collapses, falling into a deep sleep. Huc, the Cheveyo assigned to her, wakes her after a short while. She tells him about her dream and apologizes for Jada's actions in taking Jeti away from the Cheveyo priestess. They discuss this with Siden. Lexa tells them she is going to the Circle of Serenity to find that peacock from her dream. She is shown a much less travelled road to use and will arrive within a few hours.

Chapter 6 – Arial

Arial's injuries are slowing her down. She and Garam decide to visit Teru for guidance. On the way, Arial dreams of what it would be like to live the different lives of her friends. Garam keeps her grounded. The Wise Oak suggests she enlists the help of the shamans deep in the forest in the Circle of Serenity. Seeing the severity of her injuries, he calls for an elf to take them through underground tunnels, bringing them within an hour's walk of this most enchanting place.

Chapter 7 – Convergence/Divergence

Lexa is first to arrive at the Circle of Serenity. She passes the grand waterfall in search of the clearing in her dream. It's not long before the peacock arrives and shares visions with her. The Whisperer is frustrated with the image of a familiar fae. She can't quite put her finger on where it's located. She's tasked with getting to Tana, the land farthest away from Zaria. Even under the best of circumstances, there are not enough days to make the journey and return to the appointed location in time. The peacock tells her, "Use your gifts." She hurries to find shelter. Storm swirls are coming.

Arial and Garam have been walking for nearly an hour. They see the Circle of Serenity and the storm swirls. Searing pain shoots through Arial as Garam pulls on her, trying to get her under some nearby bushes. Garam barely succeeds, hanging onto an unconscious Arial. They both sleep for a few hours.

Carena finds herself in front of the stone replicas of Cheveyo at the entrance to the Circle of Serenity. She quietly leads her horse passed a grand waterfall to the dense forest that awaits her.

After the storm passes, **Lexa** ponders her choices. With pack in hand, she quietly leaves the Circle of Serenity, taking that less travelled road back to Siden.

Arial awakens; the pain much less than before. She and Garam are in awe with what they see as they pass the stone statues. This is their first time here. They roam, passing a second waterfall, then a clearing, and finally enter the part of the forest where she hopes to find a shaman to finish her healing.

Chapter 8 – The Portal

Carena's frustration level rises as the light of day disappears. Even with the light from her aura, her search for Senerafae is virtually impossible in this dense forest at night. She searches anyway. She speaks to the trees, to herself, to the air around her, hoping for an answer. Someone does indeed answer and leads her to what she wants. After some much needed sleep, Carena spends the next few hours trying different ways to open the portal. She fails miserably. The only thing keeping her from giving up is knowing that her friends won't. With her hand firmly against the fae, Carena continues shouting out possible words that will open the portal. She hears children laughing again. One of the words works, and now before her stands her way to Meena.

Chapter 9 – Warriors of Edana

Fiera stops at Serafina's cave to inform her of their progress and to ask if Edana has any other resources she could use to fight Asar's evil magic. The Witch of the Blaze tells her of a fierce warrior tribe in Eastern Edana. It takes Fiera a great deal of convincing to get them to help. Another storm wreaks havoc here, but this time, no lives are lost. A decision is made that the entire tribe will go with Fiera. If the Chosen Ones don't succeed, they are all dead anyway.

Chapter 10 – Soldiers of Tana

Lexa, Siden, and Lipa, the Empress of the Einini, meet at the Faerie Nursery. Here they work together to refine a gift Lexa possesses, practicing on other Zarians until they believe she is ready to use it elsewhere. She must incorporate another gift if this scheme is to work. She has difficulty, but eventually manages to get it under control. Lexa's journey to Tana

begins, with Clar as her first point of contact. Friends and family here in Tana help her gather the army she needs. They work together to devise a grand illusion to protect the enormous division as it moves across the Plains. Lexa keeps her soldiers on course over the next twenty-five days of travel to the City of Peace.

Chapter 11 – Fighters of Zaria

Arial knows she and Garam are being watched. She announces their intention and her need of assistance. Three shamans, finishing each other's sentences, appear before them. After a brief interrogation, they lead the Creator and the galuu deeper into the forest. They perform a ritual that puts Arial to sleep. She awakens to find her pain gone.

These two are now on their way to find Nabbit and recruit their air force. They travel all day at a pace that makes it necessary for Arial to give Garam intermittent piggyback rides. They arrive in the darkness of night. Nabbit has a grand surprise for Arial.

The Zarian air force is a prime target for storm swirls. Special precautions are taken to ensure their safety while traversing the Assiral Plains. Storms are occurring multiple times a week now, hindering their forward movement. Arial's concern about possibly not arriving in time is a valid one.

Chapter 12 – Militants of Meena

Greeting her, after the shock of being transported through the portal, is Tinen Heartleaf. He is as surprised to see her here as she is. Back to Earthlight they go. Carena is determined to persuade Orion to help her amass a military force within Meena. They strategize. All the while, without Carena's knowledge, Orion sends word of their needs, through his forest friends, to all parts of Meena. Negativity-repelling stones are gathered for the trip. Carena addresses the throng of militants ready to serve. Then Orion climbs atop a shapeshifter and leads them onto the Assiral Plains.

Chapter 13 – The Priestess

The increase in frequency and intensity of the storm swirls is a concern for Jada, but she has no intention of letting that stop her. As the days pass, Jada is paralyzed by intense visions she doesn't understand. Forging ahead, they reach the mounds of rubble encircling this City of Peace. She knows the last key is hidden within one of these mounds. With Jeti's

help, she begins the search. Screeching creatures hiding within the mounds attack as soon as rocks are moved to create a way in. Jeti does everything in his power to keep Jada safe. This continues for days, and time is running out. With only a few days left before the suns and moons align, and no sight of her friends, she fears the worst.

Her visions are more frequent. She learns things about herself that she finds difficult to accept. Finally, she spots the Zarian air force in the distance and Jeti tells her of something moving from the south. Her friends are alive, at least some of them.

Chapter 14 – The Chosen Ones

Storms are now twelve hours apart as the days grow closer to the celestial alignment. Other than storms, Fiera's army has seen no combat on the Plains. This concerns her. The mounds of rubble in the City of Peace are greater in number than she imagined. Her army begins looking for the last key. They are aware of the evil that lies within the mounds. Fiera spots Carena's group of militants moving in from the south. She and Carena head east in search of Lexa and her soldiers. Their conversation leads to discoveries about Jada and Serafina neither of them expected. They finally locate Lexa and she tells them Arial is on her way from the west with her air force.

Chapter 15 – Death and Destruction

It is now less than forty-four hours before alignment. Hours of darkness outnumber those of light due to the frequency of the storms now. All five girls are back together, but the last key is still missing. Evil creatures are let loose and the troops begin the battle with magic. Once again, Jada is attacked. This time she is badly injured. Carena rushes to her side and uses her healing power to save her friend. All sorts of evil creatures appear from nowhere. The battle intensifies as the girls work feverishly to find that key. Another storm appears, and now everyone deals with that added burden. Another vision for Jada gives Lexa a clue about the fae she saw when she was with the peacock. At last, Jada locates the final key. A vision comes to her as she removes it from its resting place.

Chapter 16 – Unleashed

The removal of the final keys unleashes evil magic that was frozen in time thousands of years ago. All are exhausted from days of fighting. The suns and moons are aligning, and

the girls know they can't give up now. What they don't realize is that the Witch of the Blaze was also released from confinement with the removal of the last key. Serafina is now free to put her plan into action.

Chapter 17 – Calling the Wind

Lexa's telepathic abilities are crucial to fulfilling the prophecy. With the help of friends back in Tana, she relays information to the Chosen Ones as they work together to use the keys to call the wind. All that is evil grows to immense proportions. Jada intuitively uses the last key while shouting words from her vision. Now good and evil are at war with each other. What the Chosen Ones witness keeps them frozen in place. The battle is over and many, including friends, are dead. A white rain and thousands of butterflies overtake the blackness in the sky.

Chapter 18 – Reaia

It is nearly two years later. The Ancient Ones arrive, and the City of Peace is renamed; it will now be known as Reaia. The Day of Alignment was a turning point for all those celebrating today. They remember those who died to save their world. Carena and Fiera enjoy their day here. Fiera takes Carena home. They will see each other tomorrow at the Festival of Riga.

Chapter 19 – Festival of Riga

Since the battle, Fiera spent most of her time in Edana. Today is a day she has waited for, and now at twenty-one, she receives the honor of Master of Illusion, and her final steed. The ceremony takes an unusual twist. A special segment has been added to the program to honor the Chosen Ones with presentations of thanks. When the festivities are over, Fiera is alone with her new horse and her thoughts. What happens next is something that will, once again, change her life.

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Love is the theme of this story—love of others, love of self, and what the power of love can do. Whether you believe in something greater than yourself or not, love gives life meaning. Love like there's no tomorrow, because this moment is all you're guaranteed.