



# ***The Girl Who Drank the Moon***

## **Book Club Kit**

### Discussion Questions (Grades 6-9)

- 1) Why do the people of the Protectorate believe they must sacrifice a baby each year? How does this belief shape their society?
- 2) What happens when Luna's magic begins to emerge? How does Xan try to protect her?
- 3) Luna grows up unaware of her magic. How does this affect her understanding of herself and her world?
- 4) The novel explores the theme of sorrow and its power over people. How do different characters handle their grief?
- 5) How does the novel challenge the idea of blind obedience to tradition?  
How does *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* compare to other fantasy books you've read? What makes it unique?
- 6) If you lived in the Protectorate, do you think you would have accepted the stories about the Witch, or would you have questioned them? Why?
- 7) The novel emphasizes the importance of love and kindness. Which character do you think best represents these values?
- 8) If you could have one magical ability from the book, what would it be and why?

*These questions were developed with help from AI.*



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Author Information: Kelly Barnhill



### **Kelly Barnhill**

Photo from The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library

### **About Kelly Barnhill**

Kelly Barnhill is an American author known for her imaginative stories and fantasy novels for young readers. Barnhill was born on December 7, 1973, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She later earned her bachelor's degree from St. Catherine University in Saint Paul.

Barnhill came to writing later in life, starting her career after the birth of her second child. Before then she tried various jobs, including bartending, teaching, and working as a park ranger.

Barnhill is also the author of *The Mostly True Story of Jack* (2011), *Iron Hearted Violet* (2012), and *The Witch's Boy* (2014). In addition to her novels, Barnhill has written short stories and nonfiction books for children. She lives in Minneapolis with her husband.

### **About *The Girl Who Drank the Moon***

*The Girl Who Drank the Moon* is a fantasy novel that follows the story of a young girl with magical powers. The book received the 2017 Newbery Medal in part for its exploration of magic, tradition, and discovery. The novel has been praised by critics and included on several reading lists for middle grade and young adult audiences.

### **Sources**

- "About Kelly Barnhill," <https://kellybarnhill.wordpress.com/about/>
- Minnesota Writers on the Map, "Kelly Barnhill," <https://mnwritersmap.org/kelly-barnhill/>
- Wikipedia, "Kelly Barnhill (author)," [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kelly\\_Barnhill\\_%28author%29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kelly_Barnhill_%28author%29)

*These summaries were developed with help from AI.*