



YouthREAD 2020

Chapter Book Selection
Grades 3-5

Community READ 2020

FINDLAY - HANCOCK COUNTY

PUBLIC LIBRARY

THREE PENNIES

Written by Melanie Crowder

After seven years in foster care, Marin learns that she is legally up for adoption because her birthmother has just relinquished all rights. Marin is more determined than ever to find her birthmother and change her mind, but as she grows closer to Lucy, the woman who hopes to adopt her, Marin faces a difficult choice.

Join our CommunityREAD by reading and sharing this book, then enrich the experience with these questions and activities.

Discussion Questions

1. Why are the *I Ching* and the piggy bank so important to Marin? If you were only allowed to take one or two personal belongings with you when you moved, what would you take? What makes the object(s) you chose important to you?
2. Why do you think Owl is watching over Marin? If you could choose an animal to watch over and guide you, what animal would you choose? Why?
3. What surprises Marin about her feelings when she goes to meet her biological mother? Why do you think she feels the way she does? Did the reunion end the way you thought it would?

Activities

1. Throughout the novel, Marin turns to the *I Ching* for guidance or wisdom. Research the history of the *I Ching* and learn how it works. Try asking a question and using coins to consult the *I Ching*.
2. Marin's biological mother writes each of her wishes down and then lets them go at the end of the year. Create a wish jar for each of the characters in the book. What do you think Marin wishes? What about Lucy? Talula? Owl? Gilda? After you've made wish jars for each character, make a wish jar for yourself.

These discussion questions, activities, and more can be found at the publisher's website:

<https://www.simonandschuster.com/books/Three-Pennies/Melanie-Crowder/9781481471886>