

Discussion Questions and Comments for The Potion of Power

- What parts of this story surprised you?
- Did you think the story Marlowe told about slaying a dragon was true at first?
 - Why or why not?
- Do you think Rohese would have still loved Marlowe if he had told her the truth about not being a knight?
- What do you think the words “honor” and “valor” mean?
 - Do any of the characters have these virtues?
- Would you say Marlowe is a hero or an antihero in this story?
 - Who or what would be the antagonist?
- To gain respect and praise, Marlowe lied about being a knight to the town of Piersborough. What are some ways people do this type of thing on social media?

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- Do you think that Master Baines was right in his treatment of Marlowe?
 - Do you think Marlowe was right in his treatment of Master Baines?
- Marlowe was addicted to the potion. What are some things that you see people addicted to today?
- How can you be a Rohese to somebody you see trapped in unhealthy habits?
- What are some ways you can keep from being addicted to things like video games, social media, and watching videos?
- “We need a higher power. We need a Savior.” Who do you think Marlowe was talking about here?

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A lot of lies were told in this story. Many of them by Marlowe. Many by The Stranger as well. Lying is, unfortunately, too common today. People lie to get what they want, to avoid consequences, or to hurt others. One lie leads to another one. Reputations are ruined, and trust is broken. If you want to be respected by others and have a clear conscience, be one who tells the truth. The Bible addresses lying many times. Here are some good verses to look up and memorize for when you're tempted to be dishonest.

- Proverbs 12:22
- 1 Corinthians 13:6
- Ephesians 4:25
- Proverbs 12:18
- Proverbs 21:23

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Fulfilment. Love. Everyone wants these things in their lives. Advertisements all around us are trying to sell us something that promises to make our dreams come true. The truth is, there's nothing in this world that can satisfy us. The emptiness inside every human being cannot be filled by anything in this world. With Jesus, you will find a reason for living. With Jesus, you will find someone Who loves you more than anyone else.

It may be easy to criticize Marlowe for making a deal with The Stranger. Maybe Marlowe did it because he was blinded by love? Consumed with gaining his heart's desires? Or was it out of fear to cover up his lies? Whatever the case, many people today are just like Marlowe. They trade their integrity, purity, or time for possessions or experiences they think will make them feel better.

“True power comes from oneself.” This is perhaps the biggest lie The Stranger tells Marlowe. Satan would like us to think we can live for ourselves without God in our lives. Marlowe found out he was being deceived and actually serving his enemy. Choosing not to serve God means we're actually serving the devil (see Luke 16:13).

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There's a choice to be made. And only you can make that decision. Look at what Joshua 24:15 says: "choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve."

Is there something in your life that is like Marlowe's potion? Something that you keep going back to, needing more and more, feeling like you can't live without it? Realizing you have a problem is the first step in getting out of that addiction. Don't be afraid to ask for help from a trusted adult. Be willing to change. Most of all, look to God for His power. We have no power on our own. That's why Marlowe said "We need a higher power. We need a Savior." 1 Corinthians 6:12,19-20 are some great verses to remember when analyzing if the things we're doing are helping or hurting us.

Marlowe thought he would gain honor, respect, and love by becoming a knight. In his attempt to get or keep those things, he made "a deal with the devil." He got the power and status he wanted but realized that he had lost everything. In Matthew 16:24-26, Jesus talks about this issue. Read that passage of Scripture and see how it connects with Marlowe's story.