



Prison Reading Groups
25 years
1999-2024

The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes

by Suzanne Collins

Number of pages: 528



The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes is the prequel to the much-loved Hunger Games trilogy by Suzanne Collins. This book takes us back to the origin of the Hunger Games and follows President Snow's early days, his vendetta against District 12, and the history of Panem.

Coriolanus Snow takes on the role of mentor in the 10th Annual Hunger Games and everything is at stake - his home, his education, his future. Everything that means anything to him is wound up in the success of his tribute, however, in the reaping he is assigned the female tribute from District 12. He pulled the short straw. Their destinies and survival become intertwined and ultimately both are willing to do whatever it takes to survive - to stay alive.

We recommend this book if you enjoyed the *Hunger Games* trilogy by the same author, or the *Divergent* series by Veronica Roth.

Discussion Questions:

1. In the Hunger Games trilogy, Snow is portrayed as an evil and blood hunting character. After reading his story, how did your views of him change?
2. We never find out what happens to Lucy Gray. What do you think happened to her?

