

# How to Prepare for Book Discussion as a Participant

by Christy Hissong

- Read the book actively, making margin notes and/or generating questions. (From the Scholé Sisters: The Andrew Kern/Scholé Sisters webinar [Keeping a Commonplace](#) provides a great method for careful reading.)
- Pause at the end of each chapter. What prompts a strong response in you?
- Have you made any connections to previous reading or ideas? If so, what are they?
- Briefly narrate what you've read either to yourself, in writing, or to someone else.
- After your reading, you might be interested in knowing more about the author, and what literary critics or other readers have to say.
- Maybe the reading sparked a new idea or interest in your mind -- now is the time to investigate and ruminate so you can bring something to the table when your group meets to discuss.

