



In Dreaming Avalon

A Feast

Players

Everyone plays.

Turns

Take turns once around the circle.

Play to Find Out...

Play to find out about each others' hearts and histories, to reveal your own, and perhaps to lay bare a secret or two.



A Feast



Everyone plays.

What do you notice about each other?

During the feast, anyone can ask anyone for details about the setting, occasion, and circumstances.

The Object of the Feast

Play to find out about each others' hearts and histories, to reveal your own, and perhaps to lay bare a secret or two.

Conducting the Feast

Everyone gets a turn. Go once around the circle.

On your turn, the chef sends forth a dish for all to eat. You create the dish by choosing from the lists, either a knights' dish or a fairy dish, your choice. (Knights, you need not choose knights' dishes; fairies, you need not choose fairy dishes — but of course you may.)

Each dish ends with a question to the assembled feasters. Everyone answers every question, by a show of hands or other act of acknowledgment. Make note of others' answers as you like.

Once everyone's had their turn, end the feast.

Ending the Feast

All together, toast the chef. The feast ends.

Fairy Dishes

Describe the dish. Choose 1:

- ☞ *Tiger lily buds...*
- ☞ *Light-motes from dancing water...*
- ☞ *Wild, sweet rose hips...*
- ☞ *Shavings of gilded truffle...*
- ☞ *Sighing cress, unbruised...*
- ☞ *Blushing fern fiddles...*
- ☞ *Ripe, golden poppy pods...*
- ☞ *Sugared damson...*
- ☞ *Cutlets of toadstool...*
- ☞ *Midsummer's ripe berries...*
- ☞ *Curds of bitter almonds' milk...*
- ☞ *The sacred apples themselves...*

And choose 1:

- ☞ *...boiled in soft moonlight.*
- ☞ *...slow-seethed in bee-balm.*
- ☞ *...marvelously well-sieved.*
- ☞ *...roasted in nightingales' songs.*
- ☞ *...glazed with strawberry wine.*
- ☞ *...toasted under Orion's fierce flame.*
- ☞ *...scented with amber and myrrh.*
- ☞ *...iced, with mint and mistletoe.*
- ☞ *...spiced with nettles' venom.*
- ☞ *...simmered in nectar and dew.*
- ☞ *...smoked in the aroma of hyacinth.*
- ☞ *...dusted with salt and tiny jewels.*

Then choose 1. Ask it aloud, and give everyone a chance to answer:

- ☞ *If your heart is free to be won by boldness, by tenderness, or by patience, then the spice of this dish overcomes you. Who's overcome?*
- ☞ *If you are in love with one here present, you both hiccup at once. Who hiccups?*
- ☞ *If you are unfaithful in love, this dish is wonderfully sweet. Who takes more?*
- ☞ *If you long to grow old with one sole beloved by your side, this dish burns your lips and tongue. Whose mouth is burned?*
- ☞ *If you intend malice to one here present, you can never eat enough of this dish to satisfy you. Who cannot?*
- ☞ *If you are wed to one not present, who waits bitterly for you to remember, this dish is intoxicating to you. Who is intoxicated?*
- ☞ *If your king or queen commands your heart, not you, then you set this dish aside untasted. Who does?*

Knights' Dishes

Describe the dish. Choose 1:

- ☞ *River fish toasted on a plank.*
- ☞ *A handful of mustard and sorrel.*
- ☞ *A hare, split and grilled.*
- ☞ *Warm oatcakes with honey.*
- ☞ *Mushrooms baked on a stone.*
- ☞ *Pork chopped and fried in its fat.*
- ☞ *Broad beans with garlic.*
- ☞ *Boiled barley with a little salt.*
- ☞ *Pippins warmed by the fire.*
- ☞ *Ash-cakes and burned fingers.*
- ☞ *Wild turnips done in the coals.*
- ☞ *Currants simmered in sweet cream.*

Then choose 1. Ask it aloud, and give everyone a chance to answer:

- ☞ *If you've never sat by a hearth in winter, this dish brings delicious unknown warmth to your belly and blood. Who hasn't?*
- ☞ *If you never had a caring uncle who fed you on such stuff, this dish offers a whole sequence of subtle and unfamiliar flavors. Who didn't?*
- ☞ *If you've never been hungry, this dish leaves you wanting. Who hasn't?*
- ☞ *If you've never eaten mortal meat before, this dish makes your head throb, your blood pound in your body, and your stomach churn. Who hasn't?*
- ☞ *If your heart's never raced with fear, this dish tastes insipid and lifeless and offers no savor. Whose never has?*
- ☞ *If you've never been bone-chilled, this dish is leaden in your guts. Who hasn't?*
- ☞ *If you've never kept wake over your beloved dead, this dish awakens fierce sorrow in you heart. Who hasn't?*
- ☞ *If you've never prepared breakfast for a lover on a cold spring morning, this dish dazzles you with its freshness and brightness. Who hasn't?*