

# The Polygamist's Daughter

Anna LeBaron with Leslie Wilson

## Journaling Guide

### Your Story

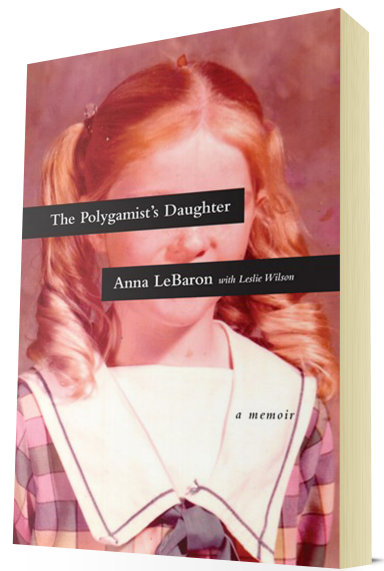
Part of the power of story is that we can find ourselves in the stories of others. When human stories intersect the power of empathy and synergy collide. Allow the following questions to open up your story. Don't just answer the question, journal and explore the answers as Anna's story connects to yours.

Write about the moment in Anna's story that most deeply impacted you.

What about that moment is like moments you have experienced?

Which character in the story did you most connect with? What about that person connected with you?

Describe any ways that Anna's story made you see your own life in a different way?



## **Independence and Adulthood**

A constant theme in Anna's story is a child becoming an adult. Adulthood is part of every person's story and struggle.

Write about times you begin to see yourself as more adult (independent, capable, strong, OR alone, isolated and scared).

What were the positive outcomes of that step into adulthood?

Were there any negative outcomes?

## **Faith and Relationship to God**

As Anna grows, another theme is her growing faith and the connection between her beliefs and her sense of self and strength. Specifically her story delineates between the stifling religious belief of the cult she was raised in and the personally liberating connection she is discovering with Jesus.

How do the religious beliefs of your childhood compare to your current understanding of God?

How was your view of God was influenced by your early life experiences?

How has your view of God been changed by your later life experiences?

How do you understand what God wants for your life?

Anna describes getting to know God as Father and how this relationship shifted her early life experiences of “Fatherhood”. How have you viewed the influence of “Fathers” in your life?

In what ways do you see God as similar to the Fathers you have known?

In what ways do you view God as different from the Fathers you have known?

## **The Influence of Others**

Anna's story included both the harmful influence and the helpful influence of others. Who in your life has been the greatest influence on you becoming yourself and in what way?

Who has posed the greatest challenges to becoming yourself and in what way?

Anna grew up in a culture that emphasized a controlling model of authority. How have you viewed authority in your life and what circumstances have influenced that view?

Reflect on a time when you went against what was expected of you. How did you deal with false guilt from doing what you knew God called you to do even if it differed from others' expectations?