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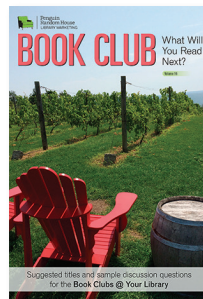
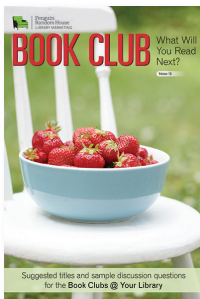
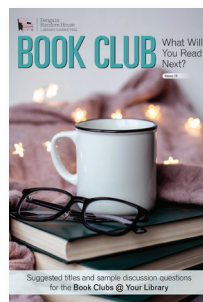
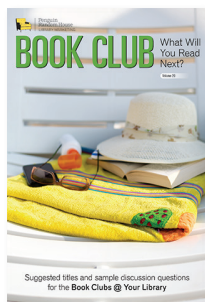
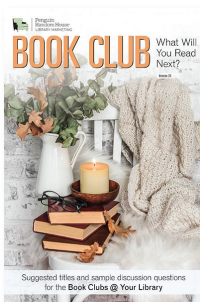
Volume 22



Suggested titles and sample discussion questions
for the **Book Clubs @ Your Library**

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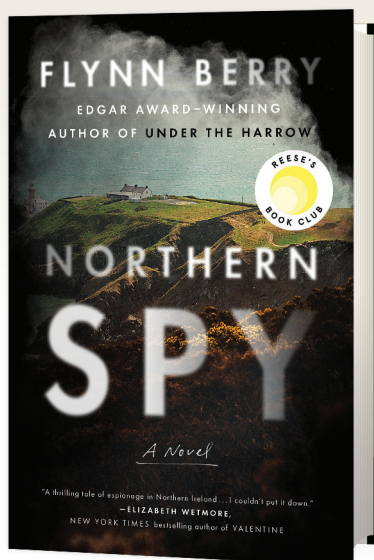
Flynn Berry
Northern Spy:
A Novel

978-0-735-22499-5 | \$26.00/\$35.00C | Viking | HC
978-0-735-22500-8 | AD: 978-0-593-39511-0

READERS' ADVISORY:

For readers of crime and psychological suspense novels
by Tana French, Laura Lippman, and Megan Abbott.

**"I loved this thrill ride of a book . . . especially the twist
that I did not see coming. Sisterhood, motherhood and
espionage all in one book." —Reese Witherspoon**



ABOUT THE BOOK:

The acclaimed author of *Under the Harrow* and *A Double Life* returns with her most thrilling novel to date: the story of two sisters who become entangled with the IRA.

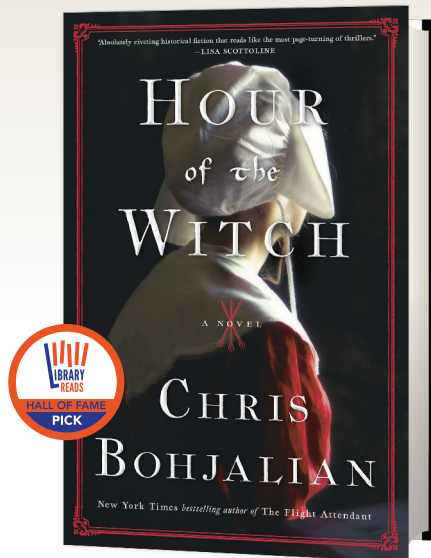
A producer at the BBC and mother to a new baby, Tessa is at work in Belfast one day when the news of another raid comes on the air. The IRA may have gone underground in the two decades, but lately bomb threats and helicopters floating ominously over the city have become features of everyday life. Security footage from this raid reveals Tessa's sister, Marian, pulling a black ski mask over her face.

Riveting, atmospheric, and exquisitely written, *Northern Spy* is at once a heart-pounding story of the contemporary IRA and a moving portrait of sister- and motherhood, and of life in a deeply divided society.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Though Tessa thinks of herself and Marian as close, she comes to realize that she has misunderstood and perhaps underestimated her sister. What do you think is the root of Tessa's blind spot? How did Tessa and Marian's relationship change when Tessa left for Trinity College in Dublin? How does it evolve over the course of the novel?
2. When justifying her job at the BBC to her Catholic neighbors, Tessa often says, "You can't change it unless you're in it". Why do you think Tessa chose this line of work? Do you think she is conflicted about working for a British news organization?
3. Discuss Marian's relationship with Seamus, Damian, and Niall, and the concept of blood versus chosen families. Do you think their bond is genuine outside of their dependence on one another to accomplish their goals? Who do you think Marian is closer to? Who knows her best?

For more discussion questions visit: [PenguinRandomHouse.com](https://www.PenguinRandomHouse.com)



Chris Bohjalian

Hour of the Witch:

A Novel

978-0-385-54243-2 | \$28.95/\$38.95C | Doubleday | HC

📞 978-0-385-54244-9 | 📺 AD: 978-0-593-34883-3

📖 LP: 978-0-593-39651-3

READERS' ADVISORY:

For readers of Stacy Schiff's *The Witches* and Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Boston, 1662. Mary Deerfield is twenty-four-years-old. Her skin is porcelain, her eyes delft blue, and in England she might have had many suitors. But here in the New World, amid this community of saints, Mary is the second wife of Thomas Deerfield, a man as cruel as he is powerful. When Thomas, prone to drunken rage, drives a three-tined fork into the back of Mary's hand, she resolves that she must divorce him to save her life. But in a world where every neighbor is watching for signs of the devil, a woman like Mary—a woman who harbors secret desires and finds it difficult to tolerate the brazen hypocrisy of so many men in the colony—soon becomes herself the object of suspicion and rumor. When tainted objects are discovered buried in Mary's garden, when a boy she has treated with herbs and simples dies, and when their servant girl runs screaming in fright from her home, Mary must fight to not only escape her marriage, but also the gallows.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. The Puritans believed that they were always in the presence of God or the Devil—that they were never truly alone. How did the characters' behavior reflect, or not reflect this belief? How would you behave differently if you felt there was always someone watching?
2. The Puritans used God and the Devil to explain the inexplicable events of everyday life. It is suggested that having this type of explanation is comforting. Do you agree?
3. Mary often wonders if she herself has been possessed by the Devil or if, instead, it is God influencing her actions. How does this inner dialogue change your view of Mary's motives?
4. Were you surprised by the way the Puritans in the novel lived? How did their lifestyle differ, or not, from any ideas about Puritans you may have had before reading this book?
5. Discuss Henry Simmons' actions throughout the novel from his first encounter with Mary, to the kiss in her parents' dining room. Do you approve of his behavior? What about Mary's?

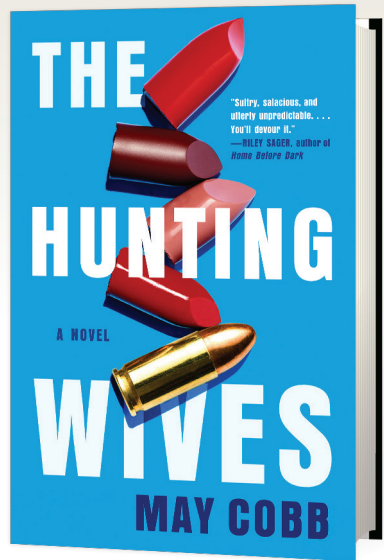
For more discussion questions visit: [KnopfDoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center](https://www.knopfdoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center)

May Cobb
The Hunting Wives

978-0-593-10113-1 | \$26.00/\$35.00C | Berkley | HC
978-0-593-10115-5 | AD: 978-0-593-34657-0

READERS' ADVISORY:

The Hunting Wives share more than target practice, martinis, and bad behavior in this novel of obsession, seduction, and murder. For readers of *In a Dark, Dark Wood* and *Big Little Lies*.



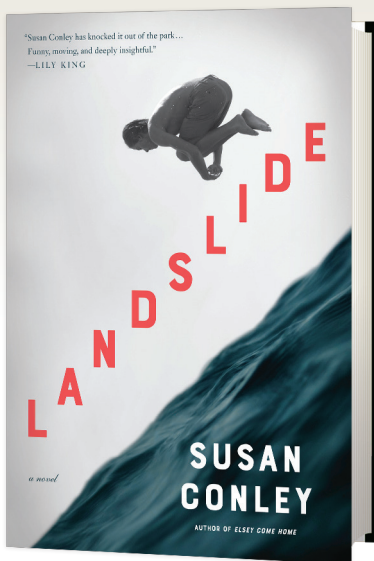
ABOUT THE BOOK:

Sophie O'Neill left behind her career and the big-city life to settle down with her husband and young son in a small Texas town. But Sophie soon realizes that life is now too quiet, and she's feeling bored and restless. Then she meets Margot Banks, an alluring socialite who is part of an elite clique secretly known as the Hunting Wives. Sophie finds herself completely drawn to Margot and swept into her mysterious world of late-night target practice and dangerous partying. As Sophie's curiosity gives way to full-blown obsession, she slips farther away from the safety of her family and deeper into this nest of vipers. When the body of a teenage girl is discovered in the woods where the Hunting Wives meet, Sophie finds herself in the middle of a murder investigation and her life spiraling out of control.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Nearly all the members of the Hunting Wives lead lives of enormous privilege and gilded wealth. Did you find yourself rooting for any of these characters at any point? Which one did you despise the most, and why?
2. Do you see Margot as a victim or a perpetrator? Or both?
3. Social media plays a big role in the story. How does it compare to your own life and your own use of sites such as Facebook and Instagram, especially when it comes to rubbernecking the profiles of other people, like Sophie does with Margot's?
4. One of the themes of the novel is the notion that you cannot outrun your darker urges. What did you make of Sophie's rootless childhood as a factor that went into shaping who she is as a wife and as a mother?
5. In the end, Sophie still has lingering questions about her feelings for Margot. How has Sophie changed from the outset of the novel to the ending? What do you think her future will hold?

For more discussion questions visit: [PenguinRandomHouse.com](https://www.PenguinRandomHouse.com)



Susan Conley

Landslide: A Novel

978-0-525-65713-2 | \$26.95/\$35.95C | Knopf | HC
📖 978-0-525-65714-9 | 📻 AD: 978-0-593-34955-7

READERS' ADVISORY:
For readers of Richard Russo, Anne Tyler, and J. Courtney Sullivan.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

After a fishing accident leaves her husband hospitalized across the border in Canada, Jill is left to look after her teenage boys—"the wolves"—alone. Nothing comes easy in their remote corner of Maine: money is tight; her son Sam is getting into more trouble by the day; her eldest, Charlie, is preoccupied with a new girlfriend; and Jill begins to suspect her marriage isn't as stable as she once believed. As one disaster gives way to the next, she begins to think that it's not enough to be a caring wife and mother anymore—not enough to show up when needed, to nudge her boys in the right direction, to believe everything will be okay. But how to protect this life she loves, this household, this family?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Charlie and Sam are referred to as "the wolves" throughout the book. What do you think the author was trying to evoke with this metaphor? How does Jillian's relationship with her sons change over the course of the novel?
2. One point of tension between Jillian and Sam, her youngest, is his Instagram, which Jillian tries to keep a careful eye on. How do you think social media informs the way Jillian connects with Sam? In what ways do you think social media has shaped modern parenthood more generally?
3. When her husband has a fishing accident in Nova Scotia, Jillian has to decide whether to be with her sons or husband. Has she made the right choice in picking her sons? What choice would you have made?
4. When Jillian sees Charlie together with his girlfriend, she thinks to herself, "I hope Charlie feels known by her." How do you think a parent feels known by their children? A husband feels known by his wife? A son feels known by his mother?

Watch a book discussion at: [TinyUrl.com/SendForMeAuthorChat](https://www.tinyurl.com/SendForMeAuthorChat)

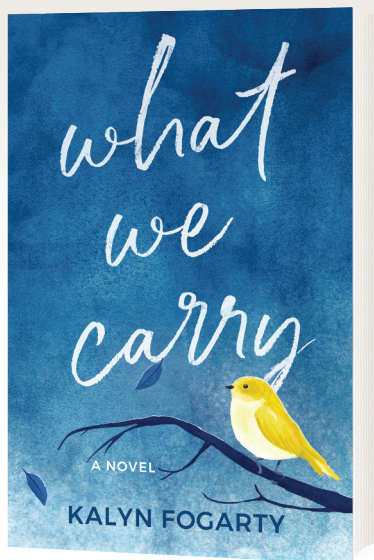
For more discussion questions visit: [KnopfDoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center](https://www.knopfdoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center)

Kalyn Fogarty
What We Carry:
A Novel

978-1-64385-847-0 | \$16.99/\$22.99C | Alcove Press | TR
978-1-64385-848-7

READERS' ADVISORY:

Fans of Caroline Leavitt will relish this rich, complex novel born of the author's own loss and grief, about how one can overcome tragedy through bravery and self-discovery.



ABOUT THE BOOK:

Cassidy Morgan's life has always followed a carefully laid track: top education, fulfilling career, and marriage to the love of her life, Owen. The next logical step was starting a family. But when a late-term miscarriage threatens to derail everything she's worked so hard for, she finds herself questioning her identity, particularly what it means to be a mother. Unable to move past her guilt and shame, she realizes there's more to fix than a broken heart. Grief illuminates the weaknesses in her marriage and forces her to deal with her tumultuous relationship with her own mother.

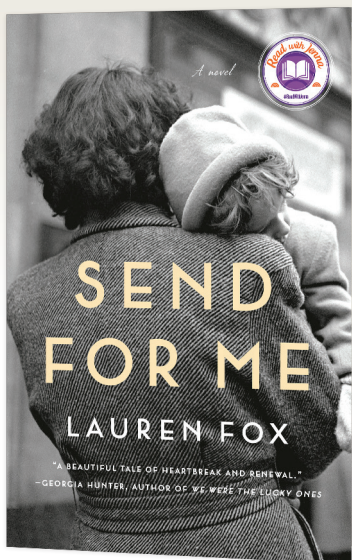
Then the unexpected happens when Cassidy becomes pregnant again. But the joy over her baby is tempered by her fear of another loss as well as her increasingly troubled marriage. Now, she must decide whether to let her pain hold her back or trust that there's still something to live for.

What We Carry is a thought-provoking response to the author's own miscarriage and lack of fiction surrounding the topic, that she and other women in her situation crave.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. The novel opens with Cassidy experiencing a miscarriage. We don't know much about Cassidy yet, but discuss how her reaction to being told her baby is lost informs who she is as a character. How might different types of women react to this news?
2. Cassidy and her mother, Joan, often butt heads. Both of them are convinced it's because they are so different from each other, but what do you think? Maybe they are more alike than they care to admit.
3. Cassidy doesn't understand how one in four women have had a miscarriage, yet she's never met another woman who's had one . . . unless she has. Why do you think miscarriage is something women don't feel they can talk about, even with each other? In your experience, what stigmas and "shames" are associated with pregnancy loss?

For more discussion questions visit: [TinyUrl.com/WhatWeCarry](https://www.tinyurl.com/WhatWeCarry)



Lauren Fox

Send For Me:

A Novel

978-1-101-94780-7 | \$26.95/\$35.95C | Knopf | HC
📞 978-1-101-94781-4

READERS' ADVISORY:

For fans of *We Were the Lucky Ones*, *Lilac Girls*, *The Book Thief*, and *The Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Annelise is a dreamer: imagining her future while working at her parents' popular bakery in Feldenheim, Germany, anticipating all the delicious possibilities yet to come. There are rumors that anti-Jewish sentiment is on the rise, but Annelise and her parents can't quite believe that it will affect them; they're hardly religious at all. But as Annelise falls in love, marries, and gives birth to her daughter, the dangers grow closer: a brick thrown through her window; a childhood friend who cuts ties with her; customers refusing to patronize the bakery. Luckily Annelise and her husband are given the chance to leave for America, but they must go without her parents, whose future and safety are uncertain.

Two generations later, in a small Midwestern city, Annelise's granddaughter, Clare, is a young woman newly in love. But when she stumbles upon a trove of her grandmother's letters from Germany, she sees the history of her family's sacrifices in a new light, and suddenly she's faced with an impossible choice: the past, or her future.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. The novel is told in a kaleidoscopic, time-hopping fashion such that the strands of the four generations of women intertwine seamlessly. How did this structure affect your relationship with Klara, Annelise, Ruth, and Clare, individually and together?
2. Consider the title of the novel, *Send for Me*. How does its meaning echo across the generations? Who is being sent for, and who is doing the receiving?
3. Which character did you relate to most while reading? How big a role did the character's age, location, or cultural background affect your ability to empathize with him or her?
4. What do you know of your own family's heritage and, if relevant, transplantation to America? How far along the chain of immigration are you, and what did the novel illuminate about that story and journey?

Watch Susan Conley in conversation with Rick Russo at: TinyUrl.com/LandslideAuthorChat

For more discussion questions visit: TinyUrl.com/SendForMeBookClubKit

Donna Freitas
**The Nine Lives of
Rose Napolitano:**
A Novel

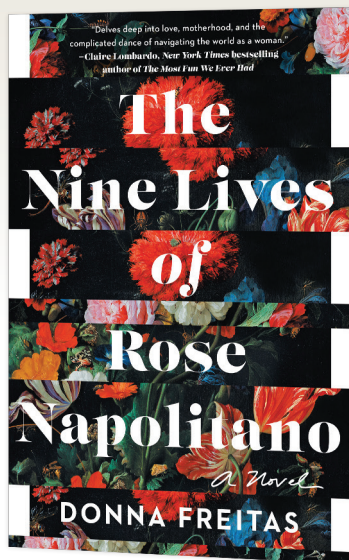
978-1-984-88059-8 | \$26.00/\$35.00C | Pamela Dorman Books | HC
📖 978-1-984-88060-4 | 📖 AD: 978-0-593-39483-0
📖 LP: 978-0-593-39611-7

READERS' ADVISORY:

For readers of Celeste Ng, Ann Patchett,
Jill Santopolo, and Jodi Picoult.

"Its intricate structure kept me turning pages and the questions posed therein kept me awake at night."

— Claire Lombardo, *New York Times* bestselling
author of *The Most Fun We Ever Had*



ABOUT THE BOOK:

Reminiscent of Kate Atkinson's *Life After Life* or the movie *Sliding Doors*, Freitas' novel explores nine (but certainly not all) possible outcomes when a woman who has never wanted children marries a man who gradually decides he does.

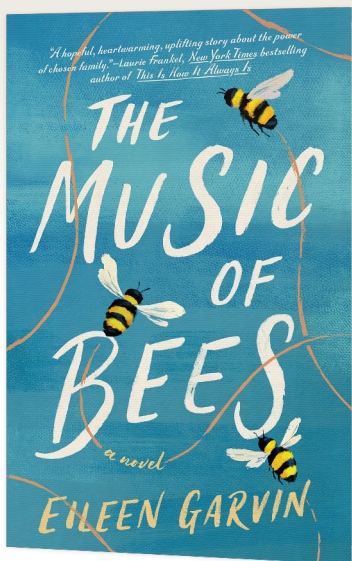
Rose Napolitano is fighting with her husband, Luke, about prenatal vitamins. She promised she'd take them, but didn't. He promised before they got married that he'd never want children, but now he's changed his mind. Their marriage has come to rest on this one question: Can Rose find it in herself to become a mother?

A stunning novel about love, loss, betrayal, divorce, death, a woman's career and her identity, *The Nine Lives of Rose Napolitano* is about finding one's way into a future that wasn't the future one planned, and the ways that fate intercedes when we least expect it.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. *The Nine Lives of Rose Napolitano* takes up the question of whether to have children—with Rose insisting that it should be a question, even though people assume it is a given for women. How does this assumption affect a woman's identity? Have you always assumed that you would have children?
2. Rose and Luke agreed before they got married to not have children. Is it unfair to Rose that Luke changed his mind? Or is it understandable—and forgivable—for a partner to change his or her mind about something as important as a baby?
3. This is not only a story about whether Rose will become a mother, it is also a story about Rose's relationship with her own mother. What do you think of how Rose's mother handled the child question with Rose? How was Rose's mother an influence on her life?
4. What did you think of how this story ended? Is there one version of Rose that you believe is the real Rose at the end? If so, which one?

For more discussion questions visit: [PenguinRandomHouse.com](https://www.PenguinRandomHouse.com)



Eileen Garvin

The Music of Bees:

A Novel

978-0-593-18392-2 | \$26.00/\$35.00C | Dutton | HC

📞 978-0-593-18394-6 | 📺 AD: 978-0-593-34485-9

READERS' ADVISORY:

A heartwarming debut for readers of *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine*, following three lonely strangers brought together by happenstance on a local honeybee farm where they find friendship and healing just when they least expect it.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Alice Holtzman is reeling from the unexpected death of her husband. In the grip of a panic attack, she nearly collides with Jake—a troubled, paraplegic teenager—while carrying 120,000 honeybees in the back of her pickup truck. Charmed by Jake's sincere interest in her bees and seeking to rescue him from his toxic home life, Alice invites him to her bee farm. And then there's Harry, a twenty-four-year-old with social anxiety who Alice hires to work on her farm. As an unexpected friendship blossoms among Alice, Jake, and Harry, a nefarious pesticide company moves to town, threatening the local honeybee population and illuminating deep-seated corruption in the community. The unlikely trio must unite for the sake of the bees—and in the process, they just might forge a new future for themselves.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. At the beginning of the book, we're introduced to three main characters who couldn't be more different from one another, yet they are bonded together through a shared experience—in this case, grief. Do you have a group of friends like that, and if so, how did your group form?
2. In the book, each character experiences emotional growth despite negative experiences in their pasts. In what ways do they each overcome their challenges? How does each character change throughout the book?
3. It takes a great deal of courage to rely on other people. What do Jake, Harry, and Alice learn about the importance of community in times of hardship? What does your local community mean to you?
4. Themes in this book include acceptance, loss, standing up for what is right, coming together, hope, and the importance of community. As a reader, how did you relate to these themes while reading?

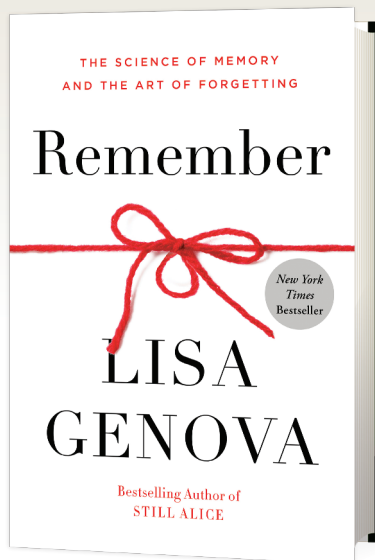
For more discussion questions visit: TinyUrl.com/MusicOfBeesQuestions

Lisa Genova
Remember
The Science of Memory and
the Art of Forgetting

978-0-593-13795-6 | \$26.99/\$35.99C | Harmony | HC
📖 978-0-593-13796-3 | 📖 DN: 978-0-593-34854-3

READERS' ADVISORY:

A fascinating exploration of the intricacies of how we remember, why we forget, and what we can do to protect our memories, from the Harvard-trained neuroscientist and bestselling author of *Still Alice*. For fans of *The End of Alzheimer's* and *Moonwalking with Einstein*.



ABOUT THE BOOK:

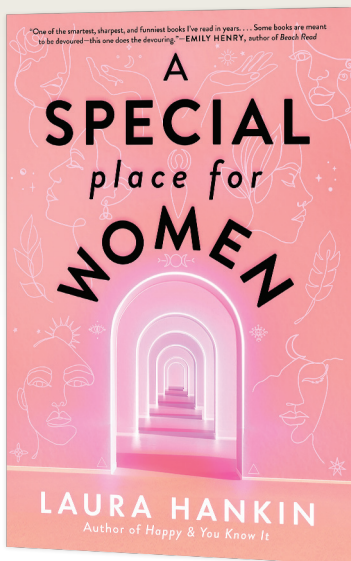
Have you ever felt a crushing wave of panic when you can't for the life of you remember the name of that actor in the movie you saw last week, or you walk into a room only to forget why you went there in the first place? If you're over forty, you're probably not laughing. You might even be worried that these lapses in memory could be an early sign of Alzheimer's or dementia. In reality, for the vast majority of us, these examples of forgetting are completely normal. Why? Because while memory is amazing, it is far from perfect. Our brains aren't designed to remember every name we hear, plan we make, or day we experience. Just because your memory sometimes fails doesn't mean it's broken or succumbing to disease. Forgetting is actually part of being human.

In *Remember*, neuroscientist and acclaimed novelist Lisa Genova delves into how memories are made and how we retrieve them. Once you understand the language of memory and how it functions, you can both vastly improve your ability to remember and feel less rattled when you inevitably forget.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. The author suggests that because we remember what we pay attention to, we might want to be mindful about what we focus on. What do you pay attention to? Might that change now, having read the book?
2. What are some things you remember from ten, twenty, thirty years ago? Having read *Remember*, why do you think you've retained these experiences and information and not others?
3. Flashbulb memories are memories for experiences that carried big emotion, were highly unexpected, felt personal, and can be vividly recalled years later. Do you have any flashbulb memories?

For more discussion questions visit: [TinyUrl.com/RememberBookClubKit](https://www.tinyurl.com/RememberBookClubKit)



Laura Hankin

A Special Place for Women

978-1-9848-0626-0 | \$26.00/\$35.00C | Berkley | HC
📍 978-1-9848-0628-4 | 📖 AD: 978-0-593-34655-6

READERS' ADVISORY:

It's a club like no other. Only the most important women receive an invitation. But one daring young reporter is about to infiltrate this female-run secret society, whose beguiling members are caught up in a dark and treacherous business. For readers of *When Life Gives You Lululemons* and *I Don't Know How She Does It*.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

For years, rumors have swirled about an exclusive, women-only social club where the elite tastemakers of NYC meet. People in the know whisper all sorts of claims: Membership dues cost \$1,000 a month. Last time Rihanna was in town, she stopped by and got her aura read. The women even handpicked the city's first female mayor. But no one knows for sure. That is, until journalist Jillian Beckley decides she's going to break into the club. With her career in freefall, Jillian needs a juicy scoop, and she has a personal interest in bringing these women down. But the deeper she gets into this new world, the more Jillian learns that bad things happen to those who dare to question the club's motives. The select group of women who populate the club may be far more powerful than she ever imagined. And far more dangerous too.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What's your opinion on spaces meant for women only? Have you had any personal experience with them?
2. What do you think of Jillian's ultimate decision about her article? Would you have made the same choice?
3. The novel's title references the famous Madeleine Albright quote, "There's a special place in hell for women who don't support other women." How do the characters embody or go against her words?
4. What do you think of Jillian's view of things we cannot prove—like astrology and the occult—and how that view changes over the course of the book?
5. How did you hope the love triangle would resolve? What do you think drew Jillian to each of these two very different men?
6. Did you find your perceptions of any of the characters changing over the course of the book? Who surprised you the most?

For more discussion questions visit: [PenguinRandomHouse.com](https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com)

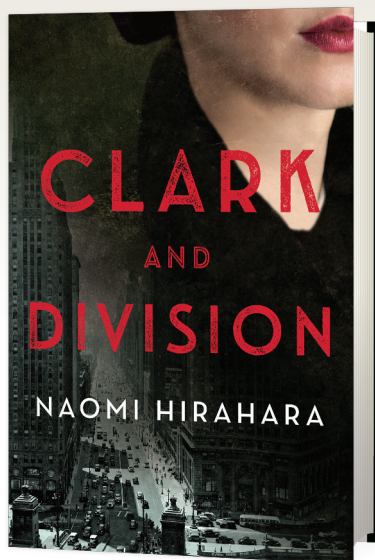
Naomi Hirahara

Clark and Division

978-1-64129-249-8 | \$27.95/\$35.95C | Soho Crime | HC
978-1-64129-250-4

READERS' ADVISORY:

Edgar Award-winner Naomi Hirahara's eye-opening and poignant new mystery is perfect for readers of Jacqueline Winspear, Steph Cha, and Sujata Massey.



ABOUT THE BOOK:

Chicago, 1944: Twenty-year-old Aki Ito and her parents have just been released from Manzanar, where they have been detained by the US government since the aftermath of Pearl Harbor, together with thousands of other Japanese Americans. The life in California the Itos were forced to leave behind is gone; instead, they are being resettled two thousand miles away in Chicago, where Aki's older sister, Rose, was sent months earlier and moved to the new Japanese American neighborhood near Clark and Division streets. However, on the eve of the Ito family's reunion, Rose is killed by a subway train. Officials are ruling Rose's death a suicide, but Aki's instinct tells her there is much more to the story.

Inspired by historical events, *Clark and Division* infuses an atmospheric and heartbreakingly real crime fiction plot with rich period details and delicately wrought personal stories Naomi Hirahara has gleaned from thirty years of research and archival work in Japanese American history.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How do the opportunities and choices available to the Ito family—in terms of home, employment, education, and community—change after the bombing of Pearl Harbor? How do euphemisms such as “internment” and “relocation” diminish the harsh reality of incarceration?
2. Besides Aki, which character do you relate to most? In what ways do you think their decisions and actions during this tumultuous time resonate with your own approach and experiences?
3. Aki seems driven to protect her sister's legacy. Why do you think she takes the investigation of Rose's death into her own hands?
4. How is Aki watched and evaluated differently—at the police station, outside the chocolate factory, inside Art's truck—by nisei and *hakujin*?

For more discussion questions visit: [TinyUrl.com/ClarkAndDivision](https://www.tinyurl.com/ClarkAndDivision)



Alan Hlad
Churchill's Secret Messenger:
A WW2 Novel of Spies & the French Resistance

978-1-4967-2841-8 | \$15.95/\$21.95C | Kensington | TR

READERS' ADVISORY:
For fans of Kate Quinn, Marie Benedict, and Pam Jenoff.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

A riviting story of World War II and the courage of one young woman as she is drafted into Churchill's overseas spy network, aiding the French Resistance behind enemy lines and working to liberate Nazi-occupied Paris.

London, 1941: In a cramped bunker in Winston Churchill's Cabinet War Rooms, underneath Westminster's Treasury building, civilian women huddle at desks, typing up confidential documents and reports. Since her parents were killed in a bombing raid, Rose Teasdale has spent more hours than usual in Room 60, working double shifts, growing accustomed to the burnt scent of the Prime Minister's cigars permeating the stale air. Winning the war is the only thing that matters, and she will gladly do her part. And when Rose's fluency in French comes to the attention of Churchill himself, it brings a rare yet dangerous opportunity.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

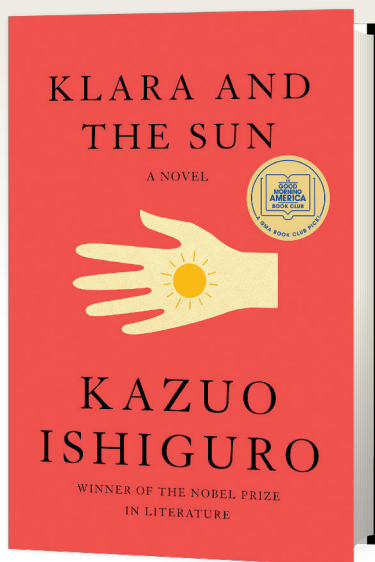
1. The Special Operations Executive (SOE), also known as "Churchill's Secret Army," was a real organization during WWII. Of its 470 agents in German-occupied France, 39 were women, many of whom were captured, tortured, and killed. What do you think Churchill saw in Rose that influenced him to have her recruited for the SOE? What do you think motivated Rose to join the SOE?
2. A number of historical figures make appearances in *Churchill's Secret Messenger*, including Winston Churchill and General Charles de Gaulle. Did you recognize any other characters as people who existed in real life?
3. What are Lazare's motivations to join the French Resistance? If he had not endured a childhood hand injury, what do you think his life would have been like?

For more discussion questions visit: TinyUrl.com/ChurchillsSecretMessenger

Kazuo Ishiguro
Klara and the Sun:
A Novel

978-0-593-31817-1 | \$28.00 | Knopf | HC
978-0-7352-8124-0 | \$34.00C | HC | Knopf Canada
📞 978-0-593-31818-8 | 📍 AD: 978-0-593-34930-4
📧 LP: 978-0-593-39656-8

READERS' ADVISORY:
For fans of *Never Let Me Go*,
The Remains of the Day, and *Station Eleven*.



ABOUT THE BOOK:

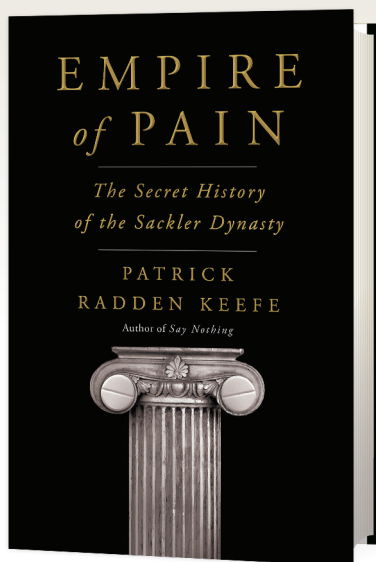
The story of Klara, an Artificial Friend with outstanding observational qualities, who, from her place in the store, watches carefully the behavior of those who come in to browse, and of those who pass on the street outside. She remains hopeful that a customer will soon choose her.

Klara and the Sun is a thrilling book that offers a look at our changing world through the eyes of an unforgettable narrator, and one that explores the fundamental question: what does it mean to love?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. The setting of *Klara and the Sun* is sometime in the future, when artificial intelligence (AI) has become more integrated into human society. Which elements of the novel felt familiar to you at the time of reading, which felt hard to imagine, and which were easy to imagine as a possibility for your lifetime?
2. Klara is prized for her observational qualities as an Artificial Friend. How do the tone and style of her first-person narration help to convey the degree of her attention to detail?
3. Does the term “Artificial Friend” resonate at all with you now, as a contemporary reader in the age of social media and the internet? What’s the difference in the level of interaction between children and their “artificial” versus their real/human friends?
4. The details of Josie’s illness are kept vague. Based on what we learn from the conversations among Helen, Chrissie, Paul, and Rick about the choices parents make for their children in this world, how might that have affected Josie’s condition?
5. Sal, Josie’s late sister, is said to have died from a disease when the girls were younger. What shadow does that loss cast on the family and over the novel as a whole?

For more discussion questions visit: [KnopfDoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center](https://www.knopfdoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center)



Patrick Radden Keefe **Empire of Pain:** The Secret History of the Sackler Dynasty

978-0-385-54568-6 | \$32.50 | Doubleday | HC
978-0-385-69754-5 | \$39.95C | Bond Street Books | HC
📞 978-0-385-54569-3 | 📻 AD: 978-0-593-16240-8
📖 LP: 978-0-593-41628-0

READERS' ADVISORY:
For readers of *Say Nothing*, *Bad Blood*, and *Dopesick*.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

The Sackler name adorns the walls of many storied institutions—Harvard, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Oxford, the Louvre. They are one of the richest families in the world, known for their lavish donations to the arts and the sciences. The source of the family fortune was vague, however, until it emerged that the Sacklers were responsible for making and marketing a blockbuster painkiller that was the catalyst for the opioid crisis.

This is the saga of three generations of a single family and the mark they would leave on the world. It is a portrait of the excesses of America's second Gilded Age, a study of impunity among the super elite and a relentless investigation of the naked greed and indifference to human suffering that built one of the world's great fortunes.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How much (or how little) did you know about the Sackler family before reading *Empire of Pain*?
2. Why do you think the author chose to focus on the Sackler family history? What does this familial lens bring to bear on the larger story of the opioid crisis?
3. In what ways did the Sacklers use their fortune to wield influence and legitimize their social standing? Were they successful in these endeavors—why or why not?
4. Could a family like the Sacklers amass a similar fortune in the pharmaceutical industry today?
5. The Sacklers have paid hundreds of millions of dollars in damages, they have ceded ownership of Purdue Pharma, and their reputation has been tarnished. Is it enough?
6. Do you have a friend or family member who struggled with opioid addiction? If so, what was the experience like? What would you want others to know before taking OxyContin?

For more discussion questions visit: [KnopfDoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center](https://www.knopfdoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center)

Martha Hall Kelly

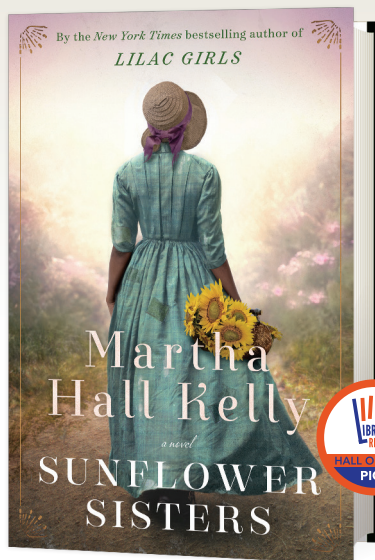
Sunflower Sisters:

A Novel

978-1-524-79640-2 | \$28.00/\$37.00C | Ballantine Books | HC
📞 978-1-524-79641-9 | 📖 DN: 978-1-9848-4544-3
📀 CD: 978-1-9848-4541-2 | 📻 LP: 978-0-593-39868-5

READERS' ADVISORY:

From the bestselling author of *Lilac Girls* comes a new novel of historical women's fiction for fans of *Before We Were Yours*, *Orphan Train*, *The Nightingale*, and *We Were the Lucky Ones*.



ABOUT THE BOOK:

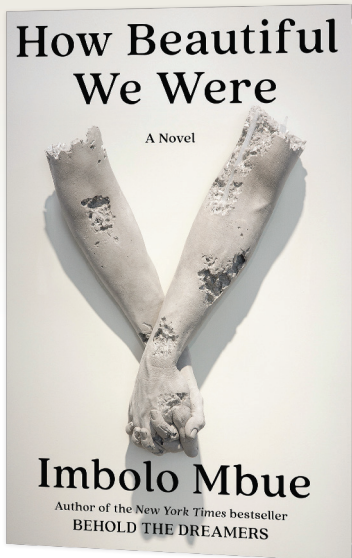
Martha Hall Kelly's *Lilac Girls* introduced readers to Caroline Ferriday. Now, in *Sunflower Sisters*, Kelly tells the story of Ferriday's ancestor Georgeanna Woolsey, a Union nurse during the Civil War whose calling leads her to cross paths with Jemma, a young enslaved girl who is sold off and conscripted into the army, and Anne-May Wilson, a Southern plantation mistress whose husband enlists.

Inspired by true accounts, *Sunflower Sisters* provides a vivid, detailed look at the Civil War experience, from the barbaric and inhumane plantations, to a war-torn New York City, to the horrors of the battlefield. It's a sweeping story of women caught in a country on the brink of collapse, in a society grappling with nationalism and unthinkable racial cruelty, a story still so relevant today.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Evaluate the treatment and role of women in the novel. Discuss the various types of power (or lack of) that Georgy, Jemma, and Anne-May experience. What provides, or denies, each of them access to forms of expression?
2. How might your interpretation of the book differ if the author had chosen to tell the story from a single point of view?
3. Jemma and her sister Patience communicate secretly through letters. What did you think about their story of survival and escaping the brutality of slavery under the cruel Anne-May? How did Jemma, Sable, and Joseph continue their relentless pursuit of self and freedom in the face of such a brutal system?
4. Have women's achievements in history been lost or overlooked? What do you think it takes to be a pioneer today?
5. Has your understanding of slavery been changed by reading *Sunflower Sisters*? What did you learn about it that you didn't know before?

For more discussion questions visit: [TinyUrl.com/SunflowerSistersBookClubKit](https://www.tinyurl.com/SunflowerSistersBookClubKit)



Imbolo Mbue

How Beautiful We Were:

A Novel

978-0-5931-3242-5 | \$28.00/\$37.00C | Random House | HC
📖 978-0-593-13243-2 | 📻 DN: 978-0-593-20996-7
📻 CD: 978-0-593-20995-0 | 📻 LP: 978-0-593-21330-8

READERS' ADVISORY:

A fearless young woman from a small African village starts a revolution against an American oil company in this inspiring novel from the bestselling author of *Behold the Dreamers*. For fans of Jesmyn Ward, Margaret Atwood, Yaa Gyasi, Colson Whitehead, and Chinua Achebe.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Set in the fictional African village of Kosawa, *How Beautiful We Were* tells of a people living in fear amid environmental degradation wrought by an American oil company. Pipeline spills have rendered farmlands infertile. Children are dying from drinking toxic water. Promises of cleanup and financial reparations to the villagers are made—and ignored. The country's government, led by a brazen dictator, exists to serve its own interests. Left with few choices, the people of Kosawa decide to fight back. Their struggle will last for decades and come at a steep price.

Told from the perspective of a generation of children and the family of a girl named Thula who grows up to become a revolutionary, *How Beautiful We Were* is a masterful exploration of what happens when the reckless drive for profit, coupled with the ghost of colonialism, comes up against one community's determination to hold on to its ancestral land and a young woman's willingness to sacrifice everything for the sake of her people's freedom.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Throughout this novel, the author immerses us completely into the village of Kosawa—the people's beliefs, hierarchies, customs, and rituals. What resonated most with you?
2. Why do you think the author chose to tell the story from multiple points of view? How did this impact your reading experience and connection to the characters?
3. When Konga rallies the village to take the Pexton representatives hostage, how did you feel? Were you glad some action was taken, did you feel a sense of foreboding, or both? Could you understand the characters' desperation?
4. What do you think was the catalyst for Thula's transformation from student to revolutionary?

For more discussion questions visit: TinyUrl.com/HowBeautifulWeWereBookClubKit

Paula McLain

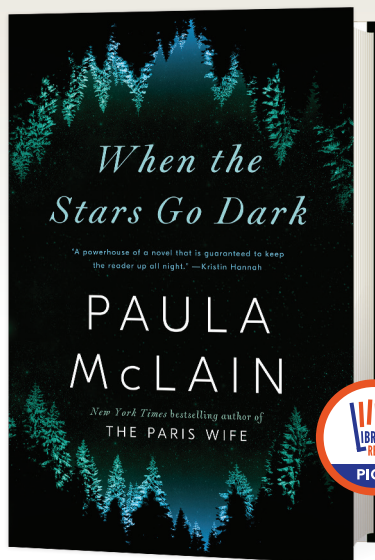
When the Stars Go Dark:

A Novel

978-0-593-23789-2 | \$28.00 | Ballantine Books | HC
978-0-385-69599-2 | \$24.95C | Bond Street Books | TR
📖 978-0-593-23790-8 | 📻 DN: 978-0-593-34522-1
📻 CD: 978-0-593-34520-7 | 📻 LP: 978-0-593-39559-2

READERS' ADVISORY:

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Paris Wife* comes an atmospheric novel of intertwined destinies and heart-wrenching suspense perfect for fans of Tana French, Louise Penny, and Kate Atkinson.



ABOUT THE BOOK:

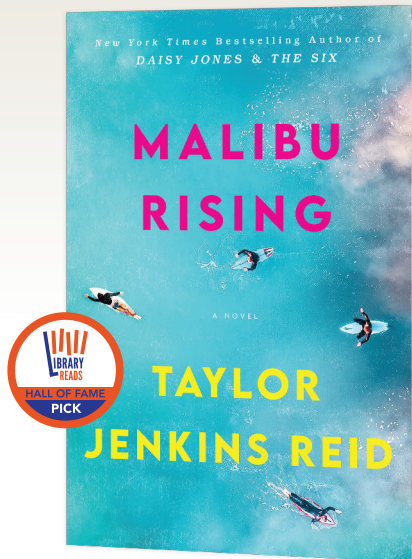
Anna Hart is a seasoned missing persons detective in San Francisco with far too much knowledge of the darkest side of human nature. When tragedy strikes her personal life, Anna, desperate and numb, flees to the Northern California village of Mendocino to grieve. She lived there as a child with her beloved foster parents, and now she believes it might be the only place left for her. Yet the day she arrives, she learns that a local teenage girl has gone missing.

The crime feels frighteningly reminiscent of the most crucial time in Anna's childhood, when the unsolved murder of a young girl touched Mendocino and changed the community forever. As past and present collide, Anna realizes that she has been led to this moment.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What did you think about the main character, Anna Hart? What did you like about her? How did she change and grow over the course of the book? How does she finally make peace with her past?
2. *When the Stars Go Dark* is set in Mendocino, California. How does the setting shape the novel? How did the author bring the small town and its surrounding woods to life for readers?
3. There are a lot of contrasting elements in *When the Stars Go Dark*. Light and dark, for example. Good and evil, lost and found, courage and fear, to name a few more. What other contrasts did you notice? Why do you think these opposing ideas are important to the story?
4. Paula McLain is a *New York Times* bestselling author most known for her historical fiction (*The Paris Wife*, *Circling the Sun*, and *Love and Ruin*). How did this book play with genre? In what ways did it feel similar to historical fiction, and in what ways did it feel more like psychological suspense or true crime?

For more discussion questions visit: [TinyUrl.com/WhenTheStarsGoDarkBookClubKit](https://www.tinyurl.com/WhenTheStarsGoDarkBookClubKit)



Taylor Jenkins Reid

Malibu Rising:

A Novel

978-1-524-79865-9 | \$28.00 | Ballantine Books | HC
978-0-385-69220-5 | \$24.95C | Doubleday Canada | TR
📻 978-1-524-79866-6 | 📻 DN: 978-1-9848-4536-8
📻 CD: 978-1-9848-4533-7 | 📻 LP: 978-0-593-39576-9

READERS' ADVISORY:

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Daisy Jones & The Six* comes a new novel for fans of Jojo Moyes and Elizabeth Gilbert.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Malibu: August 1983. It's the day of Nina Riva's annual end-of-summer party, and anticipation is at a fever pitch. Everyone wants to be around the famous Rivas: Nina, the talented surfer and supermodel; brothers Jay and Hud, one a championship surfer, the other a renowned photographer; and their adored baby sister, Kit. Together the siblings are a source of fascination in Malibu and the world over—especially as the offspring of the legendary singer Mick Riva.

By midnight the party will be completely out of control. By morning, the Riva mansion will have gone up in flames. But before that first spark in the early hours before dawn, the alcohol will flow, the music will play, and the loves and secrets that shaped this family's generations will all come rising to the surface.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Just because something looks like paradise, doesn't mean it's heaven. How does *Malibu Rising* explore the darker realities of fame and fortune? How is fame different for women than it is for men? What kinds of expectations do we place on female celebrities?
2. Taylor Jenkins Reid is often inspired by time and place. *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* was set in Hollywood in the 60s. *Daisy Jones & The Six* was about 70's rock n' roll in Southern California. Now, with *Malibu Rising*, she's exploring Malibu in the 80s. Why do you think time and place are so important? How does the author bring the 80s Malibu scene to life?
3. This novel is in part about the way we repeat the mistakes of our parents or try to avoid doing so. How was Nina's life shaped by her mother's? How has your own life been shaped by the people who raised you?

For more discussion questions visit: [PenguinRandomHouse.com](https://www.PenguinRandomHouse.com)

Steven Rowley **The Guncle**

978-0-525-54228-5 | \$27.00/\$36.00C | Putnam | HC
978-0-525-54229-2 | AD: 978-0-593-34753-9

READERS' ADVISORY:

From the bestselling author of *Lily and the Octopus* and *The Editor* comes a warm and deeply funny novel about a once-famous gay sitcom star whose unexpected family tragedy leaves him with his niece and nephew for the summer.



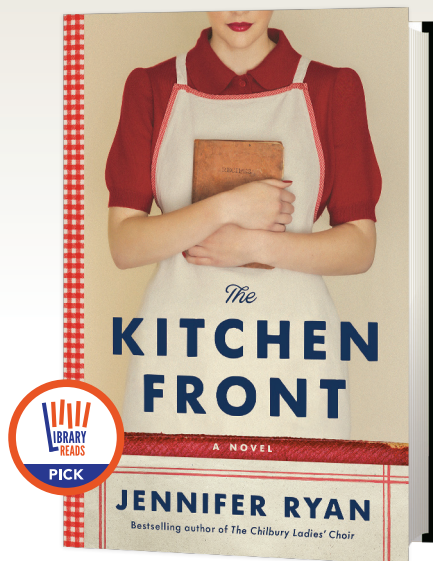
ABOUT THE BOOK:

Patrick, or Gay Uncle Patrick, has always loved his niece, Maisie, and nephew, Grant. That is, he loves spending time with them when they come out to Palm Springs for weeklong visits, or when he heads home to Connecticut for the holidays. But in terms of caretaking and relating to two children, he's overwhelmed. So when tragedy strikes and Maisie and Grant lose their mother and Patrick's brother has a health crisis of his own, Patrick finds himself suddenly taking on the role of primary guardian. Despite having a set of "Guncle Rules" ready to go, Patrick has no idea what to expect. Quickly realizing that parenting—even if temporary— isn't solved with treats and jokes, Patrick's eyes are opened to a new sense of responsibility, and the realization that, sometimes, even being larger than life means you're unflinchingly human.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Patrick and his sister, Clara, each have different viewpoints on what would be best for Maisie and Grant after their mother's death. Which approach did you agree most with? Did that change by the novel's end?
2. *The Guncle* asks the question: At what point does one stop being a kid? How is this explored in Maisie and Grant's life? What about Patrick's?
3. Did you have a favorite Guncle Rule? If so, which one? How would you implement it in your own life? If you had to create a new Guncle Rule, what would it be?
4. Grief is a major theme throughout *The Guncle*. Discuss the different ways in which Patrick, Grant, and Maisie each learn to cope with their grief. How do Patrick's memories of Sarah come to impact all of them?
5. Patrick is always his authentic self, something he draws on as a guncle. In what ways does he encourage the kids to celebrate their own unique qualities?
6. What do you think happens next for Patrick? For Grant and Maisie?

For more discussion questions visit: [PenguinRandomHouse.com](https://www.PenguinRandomHouse.com)



Jennifer Ryan

The Kitchen Front:

A Novel

978-0-593-15880-7 | \$28.00/\$37.00C | Ballantine Books | HC
978-0-593-15882-1 | DN: 978-0-593-34540-5
LP: 978-0-593-39574-5

READERS' ADVISORY:

From the bestselling author of *The Chilbury Ladies' Choir* comes an unforgettable new novel for fans of *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, *The Alice Network*, *Everyone Brave is Forgiven*, and *The Paris Orphan*.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Two years into World War II, Britain is feeling her losses: The Nazis have won battles, the Blitz has destroyed cities, and U-boats have cut off the supply of food. In an effort to help housewives with food rationing, a BBC radio program called *The Kitchen Front* is holding a cooking contest—and the grand prize is a job as the program's first-ever female co-host. For four very different women, winning the competition would present a crucial chance to change their lives.

These four women are giving the competition their all—even if that sometimes means bending the rules. But with so much at stake, will the contest that aims to bring the community together only serve to break it apart?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How are Gwendoline, Audrey, Nell, and Zelda different? Do they have any traits in common?
2. Which character did you most relate to and why?
3. Who did you feel had the most pivotal transformation, and did her shifts feel realistic?
4. There are many other themes in the novel—second chances, hope, family bonds, overcoming adversity. Which themes resonated with you the most?
5. How does the time period inform the characters' interactions and decisions throughout the book?

For more discussion questions visit: TinyUrl.com/KitchenFrontBookClubKit

Sanjena Sathian

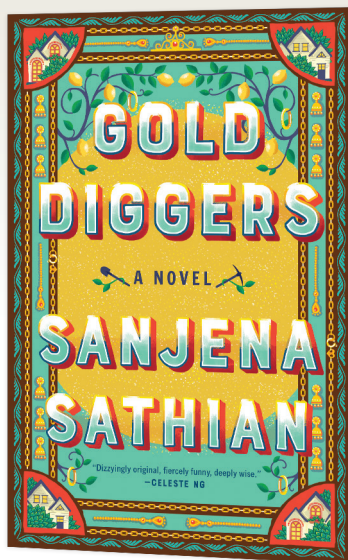
Gold Diggers

978-1-984-88203-5 | \$27.00/\$36.00C | Penguin Press | HC
978-1-984-88204-2 | AD: 978-0-593-39451-9
LP: 978-0-593-40108-8

READERS' ADVISORY:

Like *Americanah*, *Gold Diggers* is a sharply observed and deeply funny immigrant coming of age and love story. Like *Little Fires Everywhere*, it is a spot-on rendering of suburban high school life. And, like *The Immortalists*, a bit of magic gives this novel its propulsive energy.

Award winning actress and producer, Mindy Kaling, will be developing a TV adaptation!



ABOUT THE BOOK:

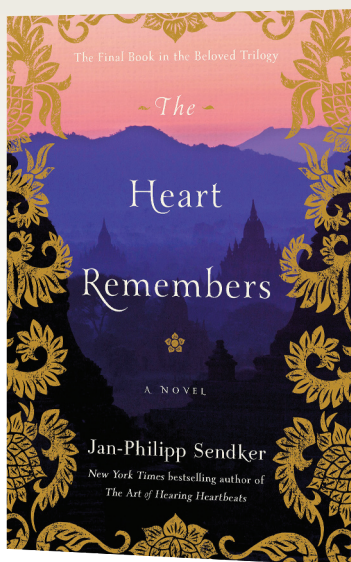
Spanning two continents, two coasts, and four epochs, *Gold Diggers* expertly balances social satire and magical realism in a classic striver story that skewers the model minority narrative, asking what a community must do to achieve the American dream.

A floundering second-generation Indian-American teenager growing up in the Bush-era Atlanta suburbs, Neil Narayan is authentic, funny, and smart. He just doesn't share the same drive as everyone around him. His perfect older sister is headed to Duke. His parents' expectations for him are just as high. He tries to want this version of success, but mostly, Neil just wants his neighbor across the cul-de-sac, Anita Dayal.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How do you think the magical element here changed the way you read the novel? Did it allow Sathian to explore themes differently?
2. Does it change your reading of the first half of the novel to have it set in the recent past? How would the issues of identity that permeate the book play out differently in the world of the mid-2000s?
3. Why is humor so integral to *Gold Diggers*?
4. Is ambition the real currency—the real gold—of the American experience?
5. How does the tale of the Bombayan gold digger shed light on the contemporary timelines, and vice versa? Is this in line with your understanding of the gold rush?

For more discussion questions visit: [PenguinRandomHouse.com](https://www.PenguinRandomHouse.com)



Jan-Philipp Sendker;
Translated by Kevin Wiliarty
The Heart Remembers: A Novel

978-1-59051-841-0 | \$17.99/\$23.99C | Other Press | TR
📞 978-1-59051-842-7

READERS' ADVISORY:

The highly anticipated final book in the internationally bestselling *The Art of Hearing Heartbeats* trilogy, a moving story about love's power to transcend distances and heal seemingly irreparable wounds. For readers of Jamie Ford, Dai Sijie, and Daniel Mason.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Twelve-year-old Ko Bo Bo lives with his uncle U Ba in Kalaw, a town in Burma. An unusually perceptive child, Bo Bo can read people's emotions in their eyes. This acute sensitivity only makes his unconventional home life more difficult: His father comes to visit him once a year, and he can hardly remember his mother, who, for unclear reasons, keeps herself away from her son.

Everything changes when Bo Bo discovers the story of his parents' great love, which threatens to break down in the whirlwind of political events, and of his mother's mysterious sickness. Convinced that he can heal her and reunite their family, Bo Bo decides to set out in search of his parents.

A gripping, heartwarming tale that takes the reader from Burma to New York and back, *The Heart Remembers* is a worthy conclusion to Jan-Philipp Sendker's beloved series.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. *The Heart Remembers* opens with the lines: "Love, my uncle said, plays a part in every story, however grand or simple, however beautiful or otherwise. You will find love in the stories that make us cry, just as in the stories meant to lift our spirits." Do you think this is true? Are there other elements that are universal to all stories?
2. The *Art of Hearing Heartbeats* trilogy has storytelling as a central theme: in the first novel, Julia discovers the truth about her father via the story told to her by U Ba; *The Heart Remembers* hinges on Bo Bo hearing the story of his parents' great love. Consider storytelling as a framing device for the novels, which are themselves stories. In what ways do we think of our own lives as stories, as narratives?
3. What do you make of Bo Bo's "gift" for reading people's emotions through their eyes? Is this view of his abilities reliable, and if so, is he just remarkably perceptive or does magic play a part? How does his character relate to the supernatural in Burmese culture?

For more discussion questions visit: TinyUrl.com/TheHeartRemembers

Pamela Terry
**The Sweet Taste
of Muscadines:**
A Novel

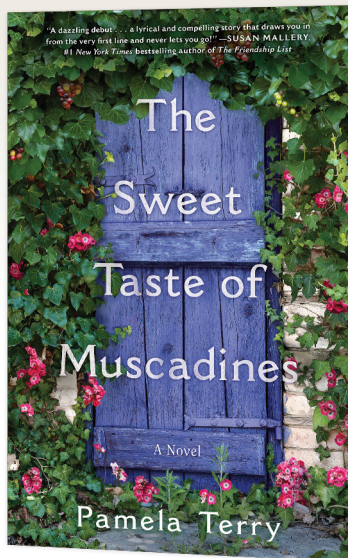
978-0-593-15845-6 | \$27.00/\$36.00C | Ballantine Books | HC

📖 978-0-593-15846-3 | 📖 DN: 978-0-593-29278-5

READERS' ADVISORY:

"A deeply moving work of Southern fiction that will appeal to fans of *Where the Crawdads Sing*"

—Susan Wiggs, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Lost and Found Bookshop*



ABOUT THE BOOK:

Lila Bruce Breedlove never quite felt at home in Wesleyan, Georgia, especially after her father's untimely demise when she was a child. Both Lila and her brother, Henry, fled north after high school, establishing fulfilling lives of their own. In contrast, their younger sister, Abigail, opted to remain behind to dote on their domineering, larger-than-life mother, Geneva. Yet despite their independence, Lila and Henry know deep down that they've never quite reckoned with their upbringing.

When their elderly mother dies suddenly and suspiciously in the muscadine arbor behind the family estate, Lila and Henry return to the town that essentially raised them. But as they uncover the facts about Geneva's death, shocking truths are revealed that overturn the family's history as they know it, sending the pair on an extraordinary journey to chase a truth that will dramatically alter the course of their lives.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. In the beginning of the book, Pamela Terry writes, "Growing up in the South is not for the faint of heart. An enigmatic place at the best of times, it is paradoxical to the core." If you grew up in the South, do you agree? If you grew up elsewhere, what did you think about Terry's portrayal of the South in this novel?
2. Returning home is a common theme in fiction. Terry even references Thomas Wolfe's famous novel *You Can't Go Home Again* in her book. Why do you think this trope is so popular? And how does *The Sweet Taste of Muscadines* compare to other "going home again" novels you've read?
3. Setting plays a big function in the plot of this novel—from the South, to the coast of Maine, to the Scottish Highlands. Why do you think setting is so important? Which setting was most appealing to you?

For more discussion questions visit: TinyUrl.com/MuscadinesBookClubKit



JoAnne Tompkins

What Comes After:

A Novel

978-0-593-08599-8 | \$28.00/\$37.00C | Riverhead | HC

📖 978-0-593-08601-8 | 📖 AD: 978-0-593-39469-4

📖 LP: 978-0-593-39572-1

READERS' ADVISORY:

For readers of dramas with a community at the center like Celeste Ng's books; fans of Kent Haruf's unsentimental portraits of grief and kindness; and readers of moving novels about the triumph of love over tragedy, like *Dear Edward*.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

After the shocking death of two teenage boys tears apart a community in the Pacific Northwest, a mysterious pregnant girl emerges out of the woods and into the lives of those same boys' families—a moving and hopeful novel about forgiveness and human connection.

In misty, coastal Washington State, Isaac lives alone with his dog, grieving the recent death of his teenage son Daniel. Next door, Lorrie, a working single mother, struggles with a heinous act committed by her own teenage son. Separated by only a silvery stretch of trees, the two parents are emotionally stranded, isolated by their great losses—until an unfamiliar sixteen year-old girl shows up, bridges the gap, and changes everything.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. After the shocking deaths of two teenage boys tear apart a community, a mysterious pregnant girl enters the lives of those same boys' families. Why the boys died and what their tragedy has to do with this girl are the propulsive mysteries at the center of JoAnne Tompkins's story. But perhaps just as important is the question of how the families will move forward. What comes after grief? At a time when many Americans are recovering from a long, difficult period, did this book give you any insight into this question?
2. Similarly, what lessons did you take from the novel about the meaning of family and perseverance in the face of misfortune? About forgiveness?
3. Isaac struggles with conflicted and confused feelings about who his son really was, and what he should do with these thoughts and feelings now that Daniel is gone. Do you think Isaac comes to see Daniel more clearly, and if so, what accounts for the change? Does he understand Jonah better, or less well, than his son? Do you think parents have a moral responsibility for a child's actions?

For more discussion questions visit: [PenguinRandomHouse.com](https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com)

Lauren Weisberger
**Where the Grass Is
Green and the Girls
Are Pretty: A Novel**

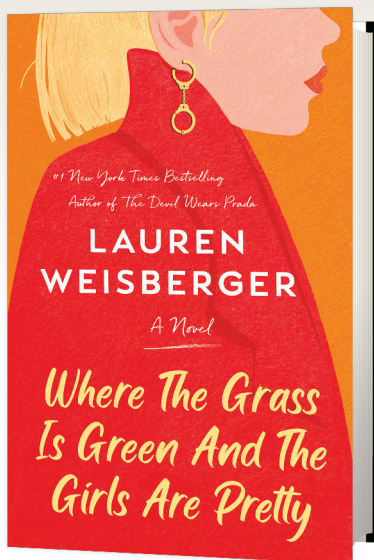
978-1-9848-5556-5 | \$28.00/\$37.00C | Random House | HC

📖 978-1-9848-5557-2 | 📖 DN: 978-0-593-41223-7

📖 CD: 978-0-593-41240-4 | 📖 LP: 978-0-593-45934-8

READERS' ADVISORY:

From the bestselling author of *The Devil Wears Prada* and *When Life Gives You Lululemons* comes a highly entertaining, sharply observed novel about sisters, their perfect lives . . . and their perfect lies. For fans of Liane Moriarty, Jennifer Weiner, and Kevin Kwan.



ABOUT THE BOOK:

A seat at the anchor desk of the most-watched morning show. Recognized by millions across the country, thanks in part to her flawless blond highlights and Botox-smoothed skin. An adoring husband and a Princeton-bound daughter. Peyton is that woman. She has it all.

Skye, her sister, is a stay-at-home mom living in a glitzy suburb of New York. She has degrees from all the right schools and can helicopter-parent with the best of them. But Skye is different from the rest. She's looking for something real and dreams of a life beyond the PTA and pickup.

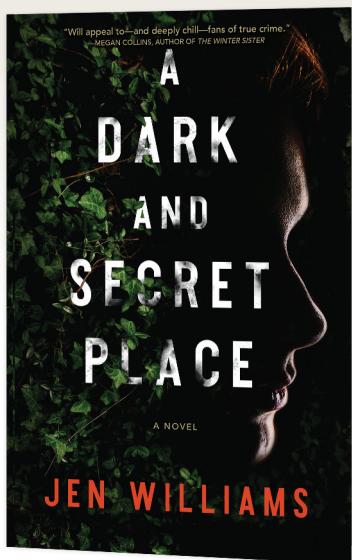
Until . . .

One little lie. That's all it takes. For the illusions to crack. For resentments to surface. Suddenly the grass doesn't look so green. And they're left wondering: will they have what it takes to survive the truth?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. At its core, *Where the Grass is Green and the Girls are Pretty* is about family. Although families can be a strong and uplifting support system, Peyton's actions negatively affect several of her family members. How does the novel reconcile their conflicts?
2. The author's close relationship with her sister inspired her to write a novel that delves into that dynamic. Do you have a sister or a close friend who you thought of while reading? In what ways is your relationship similar to Peyton and Skye's? How is it different? What were your favorite scenes between them?
3. Lauren Weisberger is known for her social satire and wit. Were there any scenes that provided comic relief in the story? Did you enjoy her social commentary on her fictional upper class suburb? Why or why not?

For more discussion questions visit: [PenguinRandomHouse.com](https://www.PenguinRandomHouse.com)



Jen Williams
A Dark and Secret Place:
A Novel

978-1-64385-574-5 | \$25.99/ \$34.99 | Alcove Press | HC

📖 978-1-64385-575-2

READERS' ADVISORY:

"Thoroughly addictive . . . Fans of Alex North and C. J. Tudor should get their hands on this one ASAP!"
—*Booklist*, starred review

ABOUT THE BOOK:

When prodigal daughter Heather Evans returns to her family home after her mother's baffling suicide, she makes an alarming discovery—stacks and stacks of carefully preserved letters from notorious serial killer Michael Reave. The "Red Wolf," as he was dubbed by the press, has been in prison for over twenty years, serving a life sentence for the gruesome and ritualistic murders of several women across the country, although he has always protested his innocence. What did Heather's mother know? Why did she kill herself? And with the monstrous Red Wolf safely locked inside a maximum security prison, who is stalking young women now?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. The book asks a lot of questions about nature vs nurture. Do you think your genes or your upbringing have more say in the sort of person you are?
2. In *A Dark and Secret Place*, Heather discovers some startling secrets about her family. Have you ever discovered something unexpected about the people close to you?
3. How responsible do you feel Bert is for Michael's behavior? Partly, entirely, or not at all?
4. From the previous question, how do you imagine them in the movie version of *A Dark and Secret Place*? Would you write to a prisoner who had committed multiple murders? Why or why not?

For more discussion questions visit: [PenguinRandomHouse.com](https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com)

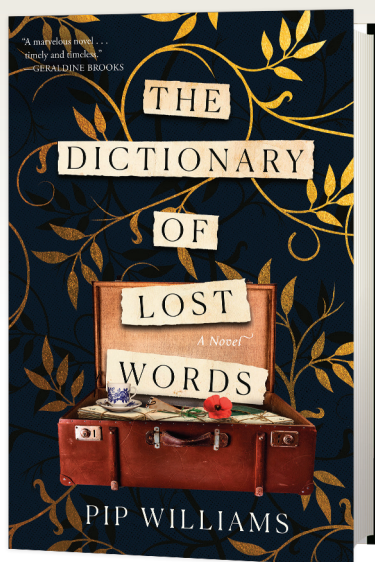
Pip Williams
**The Dictionary
of Lost Words:**
A Novel

978-0-593-16019-0 | 28.00/\$37.00C | Ballantine Books | HC

📞 978-1-9848-2073-0 | 📻 DN: 978-0-593-34506-1

READERS' ADVISORY:

For fans of *Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore*,
The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry, and
The Little Paris Bookshop.



ABOUT THE BOOK:

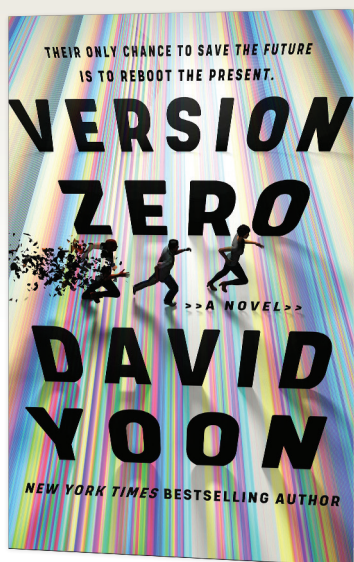
Esmé is born into a world of words. Motherless and irrepressibly curious, she spends her childhood in the Scriptorium, a garden shed in Oxford where her father and a team of dedicated lexicographers are collecting words for the very first *Oxford English Dictionary*. Young Esme's place is beneath the sorting table, unseen and unheard. One day a slip of paper containing the word *bondmaid* flutters beneath the table. She rescues the slip, and when she learns that the word means "slave girl," she begins to collect other words that have been discarded or neglected by the dictionary men.

As she grows up, Esme realizes that words and meanings relating to women's and common folks' experiences often go unrecorded. And so she begins in earnest to search out words for her own dictionary: the Dictionary of Lost Words. To do so she must leave the sheltered world of the university and venture out to meet the people whose words will fill those pages.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does *The Dictionary of Lost Words* tell us about power?
2. How do you think not having a mother influenced the trajectory of Esme's life and her character?
3. While this book is based on the true events surrounding the publication of the first *Oxford English Dictionary*, Esme herself is a fictional character. Why do you think Williams chose to have Esme grow up on the precise timeline she did?
4. Is the ending of the book just? Do the characters get what they deserve?
5. Do you think this is a hopeful story? Consider arguments for and against.
6. Consider Esme and Lizzie's relationship. In what ways are the women similar? How are they different? Consider the extent to which nature/ nurture shapes their expectations and behaviors.

For more discussion questions visit: [TinyUrl.com/LostWordsBookClubKit](https://www.tinyurl.com/LostWordsBookClubKit)



David Yoon **Version Zero**

978-0-593-19035-7 | \$27.00/\$36.00C | Putnam | HC
📖 978-0-593-19036-4 | 📖 AD: 978-0-593-34803-1

READERS' ADVISORY:

From the brilliant mind of *New York Times* bestselling author David Yoon comes a lightning-fast and scorchingly observant thriller about how we can save ourselves from the very real perils of a virtual world.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Max, a data whiz at the social media company Wren, has gotten a firsthand glimpse of the dark side of big tech. When he questions what his company does with the data they collect, he's fired . . . then black-balled across Silicon Valley. With time on his hands and revenge on his mind, Max and his longtime friend (and secretly the love of his life) Akiko, decide to get even by rebooting the internet. After all, in order to fix things, sometimes you have to break them. But when Max and Akiko join forces with a reclusive tech baron, they learn that breaking things can have unintended—and catastrophic—consequences.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. *Version Zero* is set in 2018, but the world described in the novel is both similar to our own and distinctly different. What differences did you notice? Was your reading experience changed by the fact that the novel is narrated from the future, looking back on the events of 2018?
2. If he had not been fired from Wren, do you think Max still would have decided to create *Version Zero*?
3. How do the different generations portrayed in the novel relate to technology?
4. Many characters in *Version Zero* struggle to define their moral code and what they owe to society. Take a look at the way Max, Pilot, and Akiko view morality, and compare and contrast them. How do each of these characters follow (or disregard) their moral compass?
5. Who is the true villain at the heart of the novel, if there is one?
6. Do you believe that Max ultimately makes the right decision in destroying the internet? Would you have made the same choice? What kind of new world do you think will be created after the internet was disconnected?

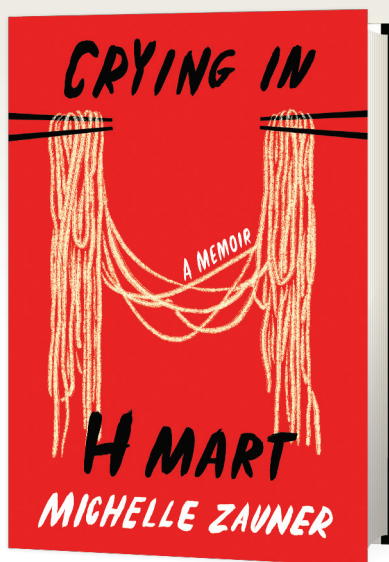
For more discussion questions visit: [PenguinRandomHouse.com](https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com)

Michelle Zauner
Crying in H Mart:
A Memoir

978-0-525-65774-3 | \$26.95/\$35.95C | Knopf | HC
📖 978-0-525-65775-0 | 📖 AD: 978-0-593-15390-1
📖 LP: 978-0-593-39659-9

READERS' ADVISORY:

For fans of Japanese Breakfast; readers of Nora Ephron, Kevin Kwan, Carrie Brownstein's *Hunger Makes Me a Modern Girl*, and Eddie Huang's *Fresh Off the Boat*.



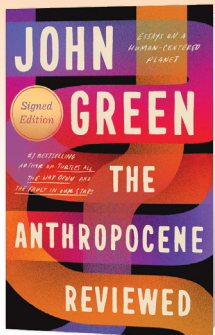
ABOUT THE BOOK:

In this exquisite story of family, food, grief, and endurance, Michelle Zauner proves herself far more than a dazzling singer, songwriter, and guitarist. With humor and heart, she tells of growing up one of the few Asian American kids at her school in Eugene, Oregon; of struggling with her mother's particular, high expectations of her; of a painful adolescence; of treasured months spent in her grandmother's tiny apartment in Seoul, where she and her mother would bond, late at night, over heaping plates of food. As she grew up, moving to the East Coast for college, finding work in the restaurant industry, and performing gigs with her fledgling band—and meeting the man who would become her husband—her Koreanness began to feel ever more distant, even as she found the life she wanted to live. It was her mother's diagnosis of terminal cancer, when Michelle was twenty-five, that forced a reckoning with her identity and brought her to reclaim the gifts of taste, language, and history her mother had given her.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Throughout her memoir, Michelle talks about how food served as a form of connection for her, particularly to her mother. What are some of your favorite food memories?
2. How would you describe Michelle's relationship with her mother, Chongmi, when she was growing up? How do you think it changed after Chongmi's cancer diagnosis?
3. Michelle, who performs under the name Japanese Breakfast, wrote her first two albums as a way to process her grief. Have there been moments in your life when you've turned to a creative outlet for solace or relief?
4. Michelle, who is half Korean, was raised in a predominantly white community in Oregon, but would take trips to Korea with her mother throughout her childhood. What importance do you think these trips held for?

For more discussion questions visit: [KnopfDoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center](https://www.knopfdoubleday.com/Reading-Group-Center)



John Green

The Anthropocene Reviewed:

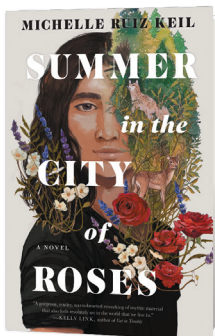
Essays on a Human-Centered Planet

978-0-525-55521-6 | \$28.00/\$37.00C | Dutton | HC

📖 978-0-525-55522-3 | 🎧 AD: 978-0-593-40854-4

📻 CD: 978-0-593-40954-1 | 📖 LP: 978-0-593-41242-8

A deeply moving and insightful collection of personal essays from #1 bestselling author John Green, adapted from his critically acclaimed podcast *The Anthropocene Reviewed*.



Michelle Ruiz Keil

Summer in the City of Roses

978-1-64129-171-2 | \$18.99/\$21.99C | Soho Teen | HC

📖 978-1-64129-172-9

Inspired by the Greek myth of Iphigenia and the Grimm fairy tale “Brother and Sister,” Michelle Ruiz Keil’s second novel follows two siblings torn apart and struggling to find each other in early ‘90s Portland. *Summer in the City of Roses* is a dazzling tale about the pain and beauty of growing up.



Eric Nguyen

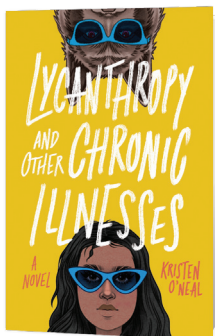
Things We Lost to the Water:

A Novel

978-0-593-31795-2 | \$26.95/\$35.95C | Knopf | HC

📖 978-0-593-31796-9 | 🎧 AD: 978-0-593-41098-1

A stunning debut novel about an immigrant Vietnamese family who settles in New Orleans and struggles to remain connected to one another as their lives are inextricably reshaped. “Nguyen’s narrative strikes a very elusive balance: vast in scale and ambition, while luscious and inviting—enchanted, really—in its intimacy.” —Bryan Washington, *The New York Times Book Review*



Kristen O’Neal

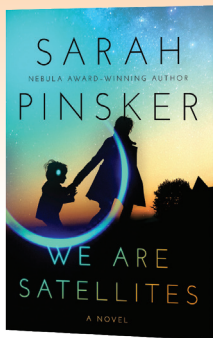
Lycanthropy and Other Chronic Illnesses:

A Novel

978-1-68369-234-8 | \$18.99/\$24.99C | Quirk Books | HC

📖 978-1-68369-235-5

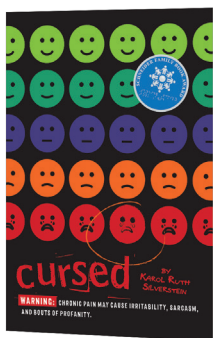
Teen Wolf meets *Emergency Contact* in this sharply observed, hilarious, and heartwarming debut young adult novel about friendship and the hairy side of chronic illness. Priya worked hard to pursue her premed dreams at Stanford, but a diagnosis of chronic Lyme disease during her sophomore year sends her back to her loving but overbearing family in New Jersey—and leaves her wondering if she’ll ever be able to return to the way things were.



Sarah Pinsker
We Are Satellites

978-1-9848-0260-6 | \$16.00/\$22.00C | Berkley | TR
 978-1-9848-0261-3 | AD: 978-0-593-34724-9

From award-winning author Sarah Pinsker comes a novel about one family and the technology that divides them.



Karol Ruth Silverstein
Cursed

978-1-62354-183-5 | \$11.99/\$14.99C | Charlesbridge Teen | TR
 978-1-63289-799-2

A debut novel for fans of *The Fault in Our Stars* that thoughtfully and humorously depicts teen Ricky Bloom's struggles with a recent chronic illness diagnosis. "Ricky's sharp, flowing, uninhibited voice makes this a page-turner." —*Kirkus Reviews*



Heather Walter
Malice: A Novel

978-1-9848-1865-2 | \$27.00/\$36.00C | Del Rey | HC
 978-1-9848-1866-9 | DN: 978-0-593-39395-6

A princess isn't supposed to fall for an evil sorceress. But in this "bewitching and fascinating" (Tamora Pierce) retelling of "Sleeping Beauty," true love is more than a simple fairy tale.

"Walter's spellbinding debut is for all the queer girls and women who've been told to keep their gifts hidden and for those yearning to defy gravity." —*O: The Oprah Magazine*

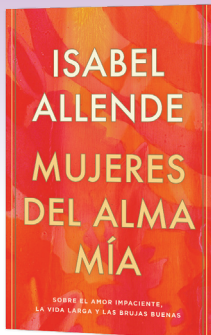


Andy Weir
Project Hail Mary: A Novel

978-0-593-13520-4 | \$28.99/\$38.99C | Ballantine Books | HC
 978-0-593-13521-1 | LP: 978-0-593-39556-1
 Spanish Language Edition: 978-841-803701-6

A lone astronaut must save the earth from disaster in this incredible new science-based thriller from the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Martian*.

"A novel that would have delighted Robert A. Heinlein and Isaac Asimov." —George R.R. Martin, author of *A Game of Thrones*



Isabel Allende

Mujeres del alma mía:

Sobre el amor impaciente, la vida larga y las brujas buenas

978-0-593-31374-9 | \$22.95/\$29.95C | Vintage Español | HC

What do women want? To be safe, to be valued, to live in peace, to have their own resources, to be connected, to have control over their bodies and lives, and above all, to be loved. A passionate and inspiring meditation on what it means to be a woman from one of the leading voices in Latin American literature.



Angie Cruz; Translated by Kianny Antigua Dominicana

978-1-64421-070-3 | \$18.95/\$24.95C | Siete Cuentos | TR

📖 978-1-64421-071-0

An extraordinary coming-of-age story of a young woman finding her voice in the world. For readers of Julia Alvarez and Erika L. Sánchez.



Ernesto Che Guevara

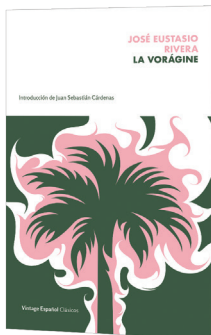
Diarios de Motocicleta:

Notas de viaje por América Latina

978-1-64421-138-0 | \$16.95/\$22.95C | Siete Cuentos | TR

📖 978-1-64421-079-6

Che Guevara's groundbreaking travel and political diary chronicles his 1952 journey across Latin America, riding an old Norton motorcycle with his friend Alberto Granado, a biochemist. The new edition includes an introduction by distinguished Cuban writer Cintio Vitier and 24 pages of previously unpublished images.



Jose Eustasio Rivera

La vorágine

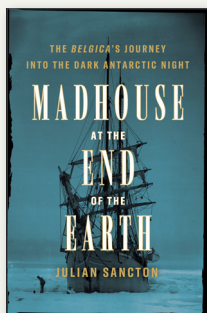
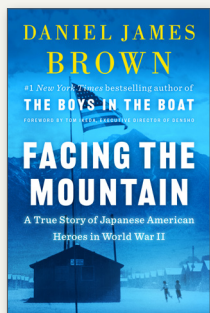
978-0-593-31344-2 | \$15.95/\$21.95C | Vintage Español | TR

Honor, violence, disaster, and the tumultuous battle a man must overcome in order to survive all mix into this captivating Latin American classic. For readers of Juan Rulfo, Rómulo Gallegos, and Alejo Carpentier.

For Spanish-Language Discussion Guides, visit: TinyUrl.com/BRRGuidesEnEspañol

For more information about books in Spanish, visit: KnopfDoubleday.com/Imprint/Vintage-Espanol

Nonfiction for Book Clubs



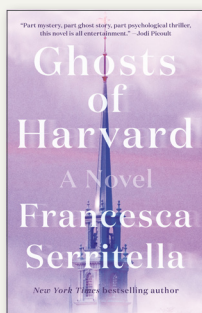
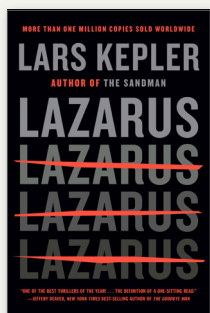
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Fiction for Book Clubs



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Mysteries & Thrillers for Book Clubs



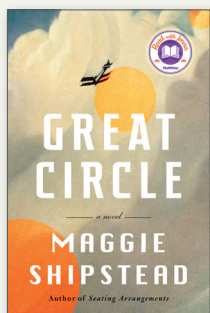
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Celebrity Book Club Picks



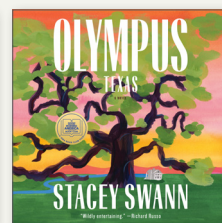
For more of our favorite picks from Oprah, Reese Witherspoon, and Jenna Bush Hager, visit: TinyUrl.com/PRHOprahsBookClubPicks
TinyUrl.com/PRHReesesBookClubPicks
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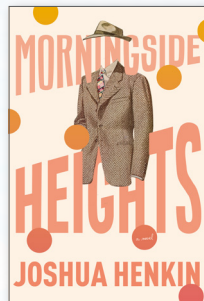
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The next author that everyone will be talking about?

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