

50 great book club questions

50 Great Book Club Questions: Unlocking Deeper Conversations and Fostering Meaningful Engagement

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Introduction:

Finding the right questions can make or break a book club meeting. While simply asking "What did you think?" might spark some initial chatter, it often fails to delve into the deeper meaning and complexities of a book. This article explores 50 great book club questions designed to foster insightful conversations, challenging assumptions, and encouraging critical engagement with the text. We'll

examine both the opportunities these questions present and the challenges in facilitating discussions using them effectively. The goal is to equip book clubs with the tools to move beyond surface-level interpretations and cultivate a richer, more rewarding reading experience. This list of 50 great book club questions is carefully categorized for ease of use and to assist in prompting different levels of discussion.

Section 1: Probing the Plot and Characters (10 Questions)

This section of 50 great book club questions focuses on understanding the narrative structure and the personalities within the story. Examples include:

1. How did the plot unfold? Were there any surprising twists?
2. Which character did you connect with the most, and why?
3. How did the author develop the protagonist's arc? Was it satisfying?
4. Analyze a key scene. How did it contribute to the overall narrative?
5. Discuss the motivations of a specific antagonist. Were they believable?
6. How did the setting influence the plot or characters?
7. What were the major conflicts in the story? How were they resolved?
8. Did the ending feel earned? Why or why not?
9. Identify a pivotal moment in the story. How did it change the course of events?
10. Could the story have ended differently? Explore alternate endings.

Section 2: Exploring Themes and Motifs (10 Questions)

This set of questions within our 50 great book club questions focuses on the underlying messages and recurring ideas. Examples include:

1. What are the major themes explored in the book?
2. Identify recurring symbols or motifs. What do they represent?
3. How does the book engage with social or political issues?
4. Discuss the author's message or purpose. Was it clear?
5. How did the book make you feel? What emotions did it evoke?
6. What are the ethical dilemmas presented in the book?
7. Does the book offer any solutions or perspectives on these dilemmas?
8. How does the book challenge your assumptions or beliefs?
9. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the author's arguments?
10. How relevant are the themes of the book to today's world?

Section 3: Analyzing Writing Style and Techniques (10 Questions)

This section focuses on the craft of writing and how it affects the reader's experience. This part of the 50 great book club questions looks at the mechanics of storytelling. Examples include:

1. What is the author's writing style? How would you describe it?
2. Analyze the use of language and imagery in a specific passage.
3. How effective was the pacing of the story?
4. Discuss the author's use of point of view. How did it impact your experience?
5. Identify any instances of foreshadowing or irony.
6. How did the author create suspense or tension?
7. Analyze the use of dialogue. Was it realistic and engaging?
8. How did the author use setting to create atmosphere?
9. What literary devices did the author employ effectively?
10. How would you rate the overall quality of the writing?

Section 4: Connecting to Personal Experiences and the Wider World (10 Questions)

These questions, part of our 50 great book club questions, bridge the gap between the fictional world and the reader's reality. Examples include:

1. How did the book relate to your own life experiences?
2. Did the book change your perspective on any issue?
3. What questions did the book raise for you?
4. How does the book reflect the society it depicts?
5. What are the strengths and limitations of the book's representation of different groups?
6. How could the book be relevant to current events or social issues?
7. What are some different interpretations of the book's ending?
8. What other books or films could this book be compared to?
9. What did you learn from reading this book?
10. Would you recommend this book to others? Why or why not?

Section 5: Advanced Critical Analysis (10 Questions)

This section of 50 great book club questions delves into more nuanced interpretations and critical thinking. Examples include:

1. Analyze the book through a specific critical lens (e.g., feminist, Marxist, psychoanalytic).
2. Discuss the book's use of symbolism and allegory.

3. Explore the power dynamics between characters.
4. Examine the author's use of irony and satire.
5. Analyze the book's narrative structure and its effect on the reader.
6. Discuss the book's contribution to the literary canon.
7. Compare and contrast the book with other works by the same author.
8. How does the book challenge traditional literary conventions?
9. What are some unresolved questions or ambiguities in the book?
10. What are the lasting implications of the book's themes and message?

Challenges and Opportunities of Using 50 Great Book Club Questions:

The use of these 50 great book club questions presents both challenges and opportunities. A challenge lies in selecting questions appropriate for the group's level of engagement and the book's complexity. Overly complex questions can stifle discussion, while overly simplistic ones can lead to superficial responses. Facilitators need to be sensitive to the group dynamics and guide the conversation effectively.

However, the opportunities are significant. Using carefully chosen questions allows the group to move beyond simple plot summaries and explore the deeper meaning of the text. It promotes critical thinking, encourages diverse perspectives, and fosters a sense of intellectual community. The 50 great book club questions provide a starting point for richer, more rewarding discussions, deepening the engagement with the chosen material.

Conclusion:

This collection of 50 great book club questions provides a versatile toolkit for facilitating engaging and insightful discussions. By thoughtfully selecting and using these questions, book clubs can unlock deeper understandings of literary texts, fostering a more profound and enriching reading experience. Remember, the key is not just to ask the questions, but to facilitate a conversation where everyone feels comfortable sharing their thoughts and perspectives. The ultimate goal is to create a shared intellectual journey, strengthening the bonds of community and enriching the individual's understanding of the chosen book.

FAQs:

1. How do I choose the right questions for my book club? Consider your group's experience level and the complexity of the book. Start with simpler questions and gradually move to more challenging ones.
2. What if my book club struggles to answer a question? Don't force it. Redirect the conversation to a related question or offer your own insights to stimulate discussion.
3. How can I ensure everyone participates in the discussion? Create a welcoming and inclusive environment. Use icebreaker questions and encourage quiet members to share their thoughts.
4. What if someone disagrees strongly with another member? Facilitate respectful dialogue. Emphasize that diverse interpretations are valuable and encourage members to explain their viewpoints.
5. How much time should I allocate for discussion? Allow ample time for discussion, typically at least one to two hours, allowing for deeper conversation.

6. How can I prepare for a book club meeting using these questions? Read the book carefully, select relevant questions, and consider how to guide the discussion.
7. What if my book club finishes the book too quickly? Prepare extra questions that explore related themes or topics. You can also consider additional books related to the main book.
8. How can I ensure my book club remains engaging over time? Vary your book selections, try different question types, and seek feedback from members on what they enjoy.
9. Where can I find more resources for book club discussions? Check your local library, online forums, and literary websites. Many resources exist to enhance book club discussions.

Related Articles:

1. "Beyond the Plot: Uncovering Deeper Themes in Literature": This article explores how to move beyond plot summaries to delve into the thematic richness of books, with examples and tips.
2. "Mastering the Art of Book Club Facilitation": A practical guide for leading successful book club meetings, covering preparation, discussion techniques, and conflict resolution.
3. "10 Essential Tips for a Thriving Book Club": A concise overview of key strategies for creating an engaging and productive book club environment.
4. "The Power of Critical Thinking in Book Clubs": This article explores how to encourage critical thinking and analysis in book club discussions.
5. "Book Club Questions for Different Genres": A curated list of questions tailored to specific

genres, allowing for more targeted discussions.

6. "How to Choose Books for Your Book Club": Advice on selecting books that will resonate with your book club members, considering interests and reading levels.
7. "Incorporating Diverse Voices in Your Book Club": Strategies for selecting books and fostering discussions that represent a wide range of perspectives.
8. "Using Technology to Enhance Your Book Club": How to leverage online tools and platforms to connect with members and manage book club activities.
9. "Book Club Icebreakers and Discussion Starters": A collection of icebreaker questions and conversation starters to get book club discussions rolling.

50 great book club questions: Fifty Words for Rain Asha Lemmie, 2021-06-08 A Good

Morning America Book Club Pick and New York Times Bestseller! From debut author Asha Lemmie, "a lovely, heartrending story about love and loss, prejudice and pain, and the sometimes dangerous, always durable ties that link a family together." —Kristin Hannah, #1 New York Times-bestselling author of *The Nightingale* Kyoto, Japan, 1948. "Do not question. Do not fight. Do not resist." Such is eight-year-old Noriko "Nori" Kamiza's first lesson. She will not question why her mother abandoned her with only these final words. She will not fight her confinement to the attic of her grandparents' imperial estate. And she will not resist the scalding chemical baths she receives daily to lighten her skin. The child of a married Japanese aristocrat and her African American GI lover, Nori is an outsider from birth. Her grandparents take her in, only to conceal her, fearful of a stain on the royal pedigree that they are desperate to uphold in a changing Japan. Obedient to a fault, Nori accepts her solitary life, despite her natural intellect and curiosity. But when chance brings her older half-brother, Akira, to the estate that is his inheritance and destiny, Nori finds in him an unlikely ally with whom she forms a powerful bond—a bond their formidable grandparents cannot allow and that will irrevocably change the lives they were always meant to lead. Because now that Nori has glimpsed a world in which perhaps there is a place for her after all, she is ready to fight to be a part of it—a battle that just might cost her everything. Spanning decades and continents, *Fifty Words for Rain* is a dazzling epic about the ties that bind, the ties that give you strength, and what it means to be free.

50 great book club questions: *The Paris Library* Janet Skeslien Charles, 2021-02-02 Based on the true World War II story of the American Library in Paris, an unforgettable novel about the power of books and the bonds of friendship—and the ordinary heroes who can be found in the most perilous times and the quietest places. Paris, 1939. Young, ambitious, and tempestuous, Odile

Souchet has it all: Paul, her handsome police officer beau; Margaret, her best friend from England; Remy, her twin brother who she adores; and a dream job at the American Library in Paris, working alongside the library's legendary director, Dorothy Reeder. When World War II breaks out, Odile stands to lose everything she holds dear—including her beloved library. After the Nazi army marches into the City of Light and declares a war on words, Odile and her fellow librarians join the Resistance with the best weapons they have: books. Again and again, they risk their lives to help their fellow Jewish readers, but by war's end, Odile tastes the bitter sting of unspeakable betrayal. Montana, 1983. Odile's solitary existence in gossipy small-town Montana is unexpectedly interrupted by her neighbor Lily, a lonely teenager craving adventure. As Lily uncovers more about Odile's mysterious past, they find they share not only a love of language but also the same lethal jealousy. Odile helps Lily navigate the troubled waters of adolescence by always recommending the right book at the right time, never suspecting that Lily will be the one to help her reckon with her own terrible secret. Based on the true story of the American Library in Paris, *The Paris Library* is a mesmerizing and captivating novel about the people and the books that make us who we are, for good and for bad, and the courage it takes to forgive.

50 great book club questions: *In the Quick* Kate Hope Day, 2022-06-21 GOOD MORNING AMERICA BUZZ PICK • A young, ambitious female astronaut's life is upended by a love affair that threatens the rescue of a lost crew in this brilliantly imagined novel "with echoes of *Station Eleven*, *The Martian*, and, yes, *Jane Eyre*" (Observer). NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY VULTURE AND SHE READS • "The female astronaut novel we never knew we needed."—Entertainment Weekly June is a brilliant but difficult girl with a gift for mechanical invention who leaves home to begin grueling astronaut training at the National Space Program. Younger by two years than her classmates at Peter Reed, the school on campus named for her uncle, she flourishes in her classes but struggles to make friends and find true intellectual peers. Six years later, she has gained a coveted post as an engineer on a space station—and a hard-won sense of belonging—but is haunted by the mystery of *Inquiry*, a revolutionary spacecraft powered by her beloved late uncle's fuel cells. The spacecraft went missing when June was twelve years old, and while the rest of the world seems to have forgotten the crew, June alone has evidence that makes her believe they are still alive. She seeks out James, her uncle's former protégé, also brilliant, also difficult, who has been trying to discover why *Inquiry*'s fuel cells failed. James and June forge an intense intellectual bond that becomes an electric attraction. But the relationship that develops between them as they work to solve the fuel cell's fatal flaw threatens to destroy everything they've worked so hard to create—and any chance of bringing the *Inquiry* crew home alive. A propulsive narrative of one woman's persistence and journey to self-discovery, *In the Quick* is an exploration of the strengths and limits of human ability in the face of hardship, and the costs of human ingenuity. This edition includes a bonus chapter.

50 great book club questions: Followers Megan Angelo, 2020-01-14 "This dark, pitch-perfect novel about our dependence on technology for validation and human connection is as addictive as social media itself." —People Magazine Orla Cadden is stuck in a dead-end job, writing clickbait about movie-star hookups and influencer yoga moves. Then Orla meets Floss, who has a plan for launching them both into the high-profile lives they dream about. So what if Orla and Floss's methods are shady—and sometimes people get hurt? Their legions of followers can't be wrong. Thirty-five years later, in a closed California village where government-appointed celebrities live every moment of the day on camera, a woman named Marlow dreams of fleeing the corporate sponsors who would do anything to keep her on-screen. Despite her massive popularity—twelve million loyal followers—when Marlow discovers that her whole family history is based on a lie, she summons the courage to run in search of the truth. *Followers* traces the paths of Orla, Floss and Marlow as they wind through time toward a cataclysmic event that sends America into upheaval. This darkly funny story reminds us that even if we obsess over famous people we'll never meet, what we really crave is genuine human connection. "Terrific writing about terrifying ideas." —Washington Post "An engaging confection wrapped around a thoughtful critique." —USA Today "Dazzling."

—Time “Razor-sharp.” —Entertainment Weekly “Big Brother meets Ingrid Goes West.” —theSkimm “[An] intelligent page-turner.” —Wall Street Journal “Dark, witty, astute.” —Slate “Black Mirror fans are going to love Megan Angelo’s Followers.” —PopSugar “Engrossing.” —NPR “Fascinating.” —Publishers Weekly (starred review) “Intricate and brave.” —Booklist (starred review) “Addictive.” —KirkusReviews (starred review)

50 great book club questions: *The Liz Taylor Ring* Brenda Janowitz, 2022-02-01 “Brenda Janowitz writes with extraordinary humor and heart.” —JANE GREEN, New York Times bestselling author *Three siblings. A priceless family ring. One legendary love story. In 1978, Lizzie Morgan and Ritchie Schneider embark on a whirlwind romance on the bright beaches and glamorous yachts of Long Island. Over the years, their relationship has its share of ups and downs, including a nine-month hiatus that ends with a stunning eleven-carat ring—one that looks just like the diamond Richard Burton gifted Liz Taylor after their own separation. Like the famous couple, despite the drama that would unfold throughout the Schneiders’ marriage, the ring would be there as a symbol of their love...until it wasn’t. Decades later, when the lost ring unexpectedly resurfaces, the Schneiders’ three children gather under one roof for the first time in years, eager to get their hands on this beloved, expensive reminder of their departed parents. But determining the fate of the heirloom is no simple task, unearthing old wounds and heartaches the siblings can’t ignore. And when the ring reveals a secret that challenges everything they thought they knew about their parents’ epic love story, they’ll have to decide whether to move forward as a family or let the ring break them once and for all. *Don’t miss The Audrey Hepburn Estate, Brenda Janowitz’s next novel. On sale in April 2023 and available now to preorder! Look for these other multigenerational family dramas from author Brenda Janowitz: The Grace Kelly Dress*

50 great book club questions: *All My Mothers* Joanna Glen, 2021-03-07 ‘One of those rarest of books: so beautiful I almost couldn’t bear it, and so moving I was reading through tears’ STACEY HALLS ‘Uniquely witty, beautifully observed, intricately woven’ MIRANDA HART ‘A truly glorious life-affirming book, in which love, hope and friendship trump sorrow’ DINAH JEFFERIES ‘Had me absolutely sobbing - a beautiful, beautiful book’ JO BROWNING WROE, bestselling author of *A TERRIBLE KINDNESS* ‘Worth every tear’ WOMAN & HOME ‘Exquisitely tender, powerfully compelling’ SARAH HAYWOOD ‘One of my new all-time favourite books - an absolute joy’ JULIETTA HENDERSON ‘Thoughtful, warm and engaging’ CHRISTINA SWEENEY-BAIRD ‘Honest, heartfelt and hopeful’ MARIANNE CRONIN ‘A joy to read’ ANNE YOUNGSON ‘A love song to women everywhere’ ERICKA WALLER MEET EVA MARTÍNEZ-GREEN, *AN ONLY CHILD FULL OF QUESTIONS ABOUT HER BEGINNINGS*. Between her emotionally absent mother and her physically absent father, there is nobody to answer them. Eva is convinced that all is not as it seems. Why are there no baby pictures of her? Why do her parents avoid all questions about her early years? When her parents’ relationship crumbles, Eva begins a journey to find these answers for herself. Her desire to discover where she belongs leads Eva on a journey spanning decades and continents - and, along the way, she meets women who challenge her idea of what a mother should be, and who will change her life forever... ‘A glorious journey into loving & longing’ ANSTEY HARRIS ‘Heartrending and heartwarming’ CELIA ANDERSON ‘Exquisite’ JESSICA RYN ‘A deep delight of a book that vibrates with love and longing’ HELEN PARIS

Praise for Joanna Glen’s debut novel, *The Other Half of Augusta Hope*: ‘A therapeutic dose of high-strength emotion’ GUARDIAN ‘Entertains and moves in equal measure’ DAILY MAIL ‘Keep the tissues close’ GOOD HOUSEKEEPING ‘An irresistible message of redemption and belonging’ RED magazine ‘Heartening and hopeful’ JESS KIDD ‘Mesmerizingly beautiful’ SARAH HAYWOOD ‘An extraordinary masterpiece’ ANSTEY HARRIS

50 great book club questions: *Surviving Savannah* Patti Callahan, 2022-04-05 An atmospheric, compelling story of survival, tragedy, the enduring power of myth and memory, and the moments that change one’s life. --Kristin Hannah, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Four Winds* [An] enthralling and emotional tale...A story about strength and fate.--Woman’s World “An epic novel that explores the metal of human spirit in crisis. It is an expertly told, fascinating story

that runs fathoms deep on multiple levels.”—New York Journal of Books It was called *The Titanic of the South*. The luxury steamship sank in 1838 with Savannah's elite on board; through time, their fates were forgotten—until the wreck was found, and now their story is finally being told in this breathtaking novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *Becoming Mrs. Lewis*. When Savannah history professor Everly Winthrop is asked to guest-curate a new museum collection focusing on artifacts recovered from the steamship *Pulaski*, she's shocked. The ship sank after a boiler explosion in 1838, and the wreckage was just discovered, 180 years later. Everly can't resist the opportunity to try to solve some of the mysteries and myths surrounding the devastating night of its sinking. Everly's research leads her to the astounding history of a family of eleven who boarded the *Pulaski* together, and the extraordinary stories of two women from this family: a known survivor, Augusta Longstreet, and her niece, Lilly Forsyth, who was never found, along with her child. These aristocratic women were part of Savannah's society, but when the ship exploded, each was faced with difficult and heartbreaking decisions. This is a moving and powerful exploration of what women will do to endure in the face of tragedy, the role fate plays, and the myriad ways we survive the surviving.

50 great book club questions: *The Humans* Matt Haig, 2013-07-02 The bestselling, award-winning author of *The Midnight Library* offers his funniest, most devastating dark comedy yet, a “silly, sad, suspenseful, and soulful” (Philadelphia Inquirer) novel that’s “full of heart” (Entertainment Weekly). When an extra-terrestrial visitor arrives on Earth, his first impressions of the human species are less than positive. Taking the form of Professor Andrew Martin, a prominent mathematician at Cambridge University, the visitor is eager to complete the gruesome task assigned him and hurry home to his own utopian planet, where everyone is omniscient and immortal. He is disgusted by the way humans look, what they eat, their capacity for murder and war, and is equally baffled by the concepts of love and family. But as time goes on, he starts to realize there may be more to this strange species than he had thought. Disguised as Martin, he drinks wine, reads poetry, develops an ear for rock music, and a taste for peanut butter. Slowly, unexpectedly, he forges bonds with Martin’s family. He begins to see hope and beauty in the humans’ imperfection, and begins to question the very mission that brought him there. Praised by *The New York Times* as a “novelist of great seriousness and talent,” author Matt Haig delivers an unlikely story about human nature and the joy found in the messiness of life on Earth. *The Humans* is a funny, compulsively readable tale that playfully and movingly explores the ultimate subject—ourselves.

50 great book club questions: *The Break-Up Book Club* Wendy Wax, 2021-05-18 Named one of 2021’s Best Beach Reads by *Bustle* • *Country Living* • *Cosmopolitan* • *Augusta Chronicle* • *E! Online* • *PureWow* • *SheReads* • and more! Breakups, like book clubs, come in many shapes and sizes and can take us on unexpected journeys as four women discover in this funny and heartwarming exploration of friendship from the USA Today bestselling author of *Ten Beach Road* and *My Ex-Best Friend’s Wedding*. On paper, Jazmine, Judith, Erin and Sara have little in common – they’re very different people leading very different lives. And yet at book club meetings in an historic carriage house turned bookstore, they bond over a shared love of reading (and more than a little wine) as well as the growing realization that their lives are not turning out like they expected. Former tennis star Jazmine is a top sports agent balancing a career and single motherhood. Judith is an empty nester questioning her marriage and the supporting role she chose. Erin’s high school sweetheart and fiancé develops a bad case of cold feet, and Sara’s husband takes a job out of town saddling Sara with a difficult mother-in-law who believes her son could have done better – not exactly the roommate most women dream of. With the help of books, laughter, and the joy of ever evolving friendships, Jazmine, Judith, Erin and Sara find the courage to navigate new and surprising chapters of their lives as they seek their own versions of happily-ever-after.

50 great book club questions: *What Happened to You?* Oprah Winfrey, Bruce D. Perry, 2021-04-27 ONE MILLION COPIES SOLD #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER Our earliest experiences shape our lives far down the road, and *What Happened to You?* provides powerful scientific and emotional insights into the behavioral patterns so many of us struggle to understand.

"Through this lens we can build a renewed sense of personal self-worth and ultimately recalibrate our responses to circumstances, situations, and relationships. It is, in other words, the key to reshaping our very lives."—Oprah Winfrey This book is going to change the way you see your life. Have you ever wondered Why did I do that? or Why can't I just control my behavior? Others may judge our reactions and think, What's wrong with that person? When questioning our emotions, it's easy to place the blame on ourselves; holding ourselves and those around us to an impossible standard. It's time we started asking a different question. Through deeply personal conversations, Oprah Winfrey and renowned brain and trauma expert Dr. Bruce Perry offer a groundbreaking and profound shift from asking "What's wrong with you?" to "What happened to you?" Here, Winfrey shares stories from her own past, understanding through experience the vulnerability that comes from facing trauma and adversity at a young age. In conversation throughout the book, she and Dr. Perry focus on understanding people, behavior, and ourselves. It's a subtle but profound shift in our approach to trauma, and it's one that allows us to understand our pasts in order to clear a path to our future—opening the door to resilience and healing in a proven, powerful way.

50 great book club questions: *The Beauty of Dusk* Frank Bruni, 2022-03-01 From New York Times columnist and bestselling author Frank Bruni comes "a book about vision loss that becomes testimony to human courage, a moving memoir that offers perspective, comfort, and hope" (Booklist, starred review). One morning in late 2017, New York Times columnist Frank Bruni woke up with strangely blurred vision. He wondered at first if some goo or gunk had worked its way into his right eye. But this was no fleeting annoyance, no fixable inconvenience. Overnight, a rare stroke had cut off blood to one of his optic nerves, rendering him functionally blind in that eye—forever. And he soon learned from doctors that the same disorder could ravage his left eye, too. He could lose his sight altogether. In this "moving and inspiring" (The Washington Post) memoir, Bruni beautifully recounts his adjustment to this daunting reality, a medical and spiritual odyssey that involved not only reappraising his own priorities but also reaching out to, and gathering wisdom from, longtime friends and new acquaintances who had navigated their own traumas and afflictions. The result is a poignant, probing, and ultimately "a positive message, a powerful reminder that with great vulnerability also comes great reward" (Oprah Winfrey). Bruni's world blurred in one sense, as he experienced his first real inklings that the day isn't forever and that light inexorably fades, but sharpened in another. Confronting unexpected hardship, he felt more blessed than ever before. *The Beauty of Dusk* is "a wonderful book. Honest. Poetic. Uplifting." (Lesley Stahl).

50 great book club questions: *Body Work* Melissa Febos, 2022-03-15 AN INSTANT NATIONAL BESTSELLER Memoir meets craft master class in this "daring, honest, psychologically insightful" exploration of how we think and write about intimate experiences—"a must read for anybody shoving a pen across paper or staring into a screen or a past (Mary Karr) In this bold and exhilarating mix of memoir and master class, Melissa Febos tackles the emotional, psychological, and physical work of writing intimately while offering an utterly fresh examination of the storyteller's life and the questions which run through it. How might we go about capturing on the page the relationships that have formed us? How do we write about our bodies, their desires and traumas? What does it mean for an author's way of writing, or living, to be dismissed as "navel-gazing"—or else hailed as "so brave, so raw"? And to whom, in the end, do our most intimate stories belong? Drawing on her own path from aspiring writer to acclaimed author and writing professor—via addiction and recovery, sex work and academia—Melissa Febos has created a captivating guide to the writing life, and a brilliantly unusual exploration of subjectivity, privacy, and the power of divulgence. Candid and inspiring, *Body Work* will empower readers and writers alike, offering ideas—and occasional notes of caution—to anyone who has ever hoped to see themselves in a story.

50 great book club questions: *The Marriage Lie* Kimberly Belle, 2016-12-27 Bestselling author Kimberly Belle is back with a "domestic thriller [that] will keep you reading into the wee hours of the night." —Redbook Fans of *Gone Girl* and *The Girl on the Train* will eat up Kimberly Belle's latest novel.—Bookreporter Everyone has secrets... Iris and Will have been married for seven

years, and life is as close to perfect as it can be. But on the morning Will flies out for a business trip to Florida, Iris's happy world comes to an abrupt halt: another plane headed for Seattle has crashed into a field, killing everyone on board and, according to the airline, Will was one of the passengers. Grief stricken and confused, Iris is convinced it all must be a huge misunderstanding. Why did Will lie about where he was going? And what else has he lied about? As Iris sets off on a desperate quest to uncover what her husband was keeping from her, the answers she finds shock her to her very core. Be sure to check out *Three Days Missing*, the next page-turning novel by Kimberly Belle.

50 great book club questions: *The Ride of Her Life* Elizabeth Letts, 2021-06-01 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • The triumphant true story of a woman who rode her horse across America in the 1950s, fulfilling her dying wish to see the Pacific Ocean, from the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Perfect Horse* and *The Eighty-Dollar Champion* “The gift Elizabeth Letts has is that she makes you feel you are the one taking this trip. This is a book we can enjoy always but especially need now.”—Elizabeth Berg, author of *The Story of Arthur Truluv* In 1954, sixty-three-year-old Maine farmer Annie Wilkins embarked on an impossible journey. She had no money and no family, she had just lost her farm, and her doctor had given her only two years to live. But Annie wanted to see the Pacific Ocean before she died. She ignored her doctor's advice to move into the county charity home. Instead, she bought a cast-off brown gelding named Tarzan, donned men's dungarees, and headed south in mid-November, hoping to beat the snow. Annie had little idea what to expect beyond her rural crossroads; she didn't even have a map. But she did have her ex-racehorse, her faithful mutt, and her own unfailing belief that Americans would treat a stranger with kindness. Annie, Tarzan, and her dog, Depeche Toi, rode straight into a world transformed by the rapid construction of modern highways. Between 1954 and 1956, the three travelers pushed through blizzards, forded rivers, climbed mountains, and clung to the narrow shoulder as cars whipped by them at terrifying speeds. Annie rode more than four thousand miles, through America's big cities and small towns. Along the way, she met ordinary people and celebrities—from Andrew Wyeth (who sketched Tarzan) to Art Linkletter and Groucho Marx. She received many offers—a permanent home at a riding stable in New Jersey, a job at a gas station in rural Kentucky, even a marriage proposal from a Wyoming rancher. In a decade when car ownership nearly tripled, when television's influence was expanding fast, when homeowners began locking their doors, Annie and her four-footed companions inspired an outpouring of neighborliness in a rapidly changing world.

50 great book club questions: *The Baker's Secret* Stephen P. Kiernan, 2017-05-02 A tale beautifully, wisely, and masterfully told.” — Paula McLain, author of *The Paris Wife* and *Circling the Sun* From the multiple-award-winning, critically acclaimed author of *The Hummingbird* and *The Curiosity* comes a dazzling novel of World War II—a shimmering tale of courage, determination, optimism, and the resilience of the human spirit, set in a small Normandy village on the eve of D-Day. On June 5, 1944, as dawn rises over a small town on the Normandy coast of France, Emmanuelle is making the bread that has sustained her fellow villagers in the dark days since the Germans invaded her country. Only twenty-two, Emma learned to bake at the side of a master, Ezra Kuchen, the village baker since before she was born. Apprenticed to Ezra at thirteen, Emma watched with shame and anger as her kind mentor was forced to wear the six-pointed yellow star on his clothing. She was likewise powerless to help when they pulled Ezra from his shop at gunpoint, the first of many villagers stolen away and never seen again. In the years that her sleepy coastal village has suffered under the enemy, Emma has silently, stealthily fought back. Each day, she receives an extra ration of flour to bake a dozen baguettes for the occupying troops. And each day, she mixes that precious flour with ground straw to create enough dough for two extra loaves—contraband bread she shares with the hungry villagers. Under the cold, watchful eyes of armed soldiers, she builds a clandestine network of barter and trade that she and the villagers use to thwart their occupiers. But her gift to the village is more than these few crusty loaves. Emma gives the people a taste of hope—the faith that one day the Allies will arrive to save them.

50 great book club questions: *Her Little Secret* Julia Stone, 2021-08-29 Readers are loving *Her Little Secret*! 'A brilliant read!' 'Tight and tense! just what you want in a suspense novel' 'I spent

most of the novel silently screaming at her to save herself as she is propelled into a hideous relationship tangle ... This book wouldn't let me put it down even when real life was making demands!' His therapist. Their love affair. Her Little Secret. Cristina knows all about boundaries. As a therapist, it is vital that she keeps her clients at a professional distance. Enter new client Leon: educated, charming, affluent -- and newly bereaved, following the death of his married lover, Michelle. Cristina soon learns that Leon has an ulterior motive for approaching her: Michelle was one of her clients, and Leon is desperate for her insights into the woman he loved. Moved by the depth of his feelings, Cristina is drawn to help him through his grief. But as she struggles to ignore her own growing attraction to sophisticated, attentive Leon, her boundaries start to blur and then collapse, and the two embark on their own clandestine love affair. But why does Leon switch so quickly from charm to criticism, attentiveness to distance? Can anyone truly be as perfect as he paints his beloved Michelle to have been, and what is hidden inside of her off-limits therapy file? Torn between her conscience and curiosity, Cristina is about to discover the truth is far beyond anything she could have imagined... For fans of *You, Before I Go to Sleep* and *Obsession*, *Her Little Secret* is an utterly chilling new psychological thriller about obsessive love and the danger of crossing lines. Readers can't get enough of *Her Little Secret*! 'A must read' 'An entertaining thriller that is sure to keep readers on the edge of their seats' 'Fast paced, suspenseful and twisty. Gripping. I couldn't put it down, definitely worth a read' 'Blurred lines and boundaries in this tense, psychological suspense which will keep the reader on their toes'

50 great book club questions: *All the Little Hopes* Leah Weiss, 2021-07-27 Will break your heart, but Leah Weiss's beautiful writing will sew it back together again —Wiley Cash, New York Times bestselling author A Southern story of friendship forged by books and bees, when the timeless troubles of growing up meet the murky shadows of World War II. Deep in the tobacco land of North Carolina, nothing's been the same since the boys shipped off to war and worry took their place. Thirteen-year-old Lucy Brown is precocious and itching for adventure. Then Allie Bert Tucker wanders into town, an outcast with a puzzling past, and Lucy figures the two of them can solve any curious crime they find—just like her hero, Nancy Drew. Their chance comes when a man goes missing, a woman stops speaking, and an eccentric gives the girls a mystery to solve that takes them beyond the ordinary. Their quiet town, seasoned with honeybees and sweet tea, becomes home to a Nazi prisoner-of-war camp. More men go missing. And together, the girls embark on a journey to discover if we ever really know who the enemy is. Lush with Southern atmosphere, *All The Little Hopes* is the story of two girls growing up as war creeps closer, blurring the difference between what's right, what's wrong, and what we know to be true.

50 great book club questions: *The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto* Mitch Albom, 2015-11-10 From the beloved author of the #1 New York Times bestsellers *Tuesdays with Morrie* and *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* comes his most critically acclaimed novel yet—a stunningly original tale of love: love between a man and a woman, between an artist and his mentor, and between a musician and his God-given talent. Narrated by the voice of Music itself, the story follows Frankie Presto, a war orphan born in a burning church, through his extraordinary journey around the world. Raised by a blind guitar teacher in Spain and gifted with a talent to change people's lives—using six mysterious blue strings—Frankie navigates the musical landscape of the twentieth century, from the 1950s jazz scene to the Grand Ole Opry to Elvis mania and Woodstock, all the while searching for his childhood love. As he becomes a famous star, he loses his way, until tragedy steals his ability to play the guitar that had so defined him. Overwhelmed by his loss, Frankie disappears for decades, reemerging late in life for one spectacular yet mystifying farewell. Part love story, part magical mystery, *The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto* is Mitch Albom at his finest, a *Forrest Gump*-like epic about one man's journey to discover what truly matters and the power of talent to change our lives.

50 great book club questions: *Myths of the Mirror* D Wallace Peach, 2013-04 Twenty years past, the governors plotted murder. Ruled by avarice, they imprisoned the winged dragons of Taran Leigh in the black cells of a stone lair. Tormented by spine and spur the once peaceful creatures howl, immense webbed wings beating beneath iron bars. Those who raised their voices in protest

were banished--skyriders, the men who rode the dragons--vanished to the distant mountains of the Mirror.Now, Treasa, the daughter of exiles, seeker of secrets, dreams with the lair's dragons, her heart torn by her love for the winged creatures and a man who masters them. She must choose her path with care. The lair's black -garbed riders sense the dragon's growing savagery. Yet one, Conall, longs to grasp their power, subdue them and soar, unaware that winged flight, merged in harmony, is his for the asking. Then, a curved talon rends Conall's flesh and dragon scale, rattling against white ribs and the world shifts. As hearts once parted bind, Terasa and Conall join forces to fight for the dragon's freedom. Alliances form, old myths are revealed and new myths are born.

50 great book club questions: *The Book Thief* Markus Zusak, 2007-12-18 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • ONE OF TIME MAGAZINE'S 100 BEST YA BOOKS OF ALL TIME The extraordinary, beloved novel about the ability of books to feed the soul even in the darkest of times. When Death has a story to tell, you listen. It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist--books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement. In superbly crafted writing that burns with intensity, award-winning author Markus Zusak, author of *I Am the Messenger*, has given us one of the most enduring stories of our time. "The kind of book that can be life-changing." —The New York Times "Deserves a place on the same shelf with *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank." —USA Today DON'T MISS BRIDGE OF CLAY, MARKUS ZUSAK'S FIRST NOVEL SINCE THE BOOK THIEF.

50 great book club questions: *Ghost Talkers* Mary Robinette Kowal, 2016-08-16 "Powerful, laden with emotion, and smartly written." —Brandon Sanderson, author of *Mistborn* and *The Way of Kings* A brilliant historical fantasy novel from acclaimed author Mary Robinette Kowal featuring the mysterious spirit corps and their heroic work in World War I. Ginger Stuyvesant, an American heiress living in London during World War I, is engaged to Captain Benjamin Harford, an intelligence officer. Ginger is a medium for the Spirit Corps, a special Spiritualist force. Each soldier heading for the front is conditioned to report to the mediums of the Spirit Corps when they die so the Corps can pass instant information about troop movements to military intelligence. Ginger and her fellow mediums contribute a great deal to the war efforts, so long as they pass the information through appropriate channels. While Ben is away at the front, Ginger discovers the presence of a traitor. Without the presence of her fiancé to validate her findings, the top brass thinks she's just imagining things. Even worse, it is clear that the Spirit Corps is now being directly targeted by the German war effort. Left to her own devices, Ginger has to find out how the Germans are targeting the Spirit Corps and stop them. This is a difficult and dangerous task for a woman of that era, but this time both the spirit and the flesh are willing... Other Books Forest of Memory Glamour in Glass Of Noble Family Shades of Milk and Honey Valour and Vanity Without a Summer At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

50 great book club questions: *Death at La Fenice* Donna Leon, 2012-04-20 A conductor succumbs to cyanide at the famed Venice opera house, in the first mystery in the New York Times--bestselling, award-winning series. During intermission at the famed La Fenice opera house in Venice, Italy, a notoriously difficult and widely disliked German conductor is poisoned—and suspects abound. Guido Brunetti, a native Venetian, sets out to unravel the mystery behind the high-profile murder. To do so, he calls on his knowledge of Venice, its culture, and its dirty politics. Along the way, he finds the crime may have roots going back decades—and that revenge, corruption, and even Italian cuisine may play a role. "One of the most exquisite and subtle detective series ever." —The Washington Post "A brilliant writer . . . an immensely likable police detective who takes every murder to heart." —The New York Times Book Review

50 great book club questions: *Us Against You* Fredrik Backman, 2020-08-04 From Fredrik Backman, New York Times bestselling author of *Beartown*, comes a heart-wrenching story of the ways loyalty, friendship, and love carry a small community through its darkest days. After everything

that the citizens of Beartown have gone through, they are struck yet another blow when they hear that their beloved local junior hockey team will soon be disbanded. What makes it worse is the obvious satisfaction that all the former Beartown players, who now play for a rival team in Hed, take in that fact. As the tension between the two towns simmers, a surprising newcomer is handpicked to try to save the Beartown club. Soon a new team starts to take shape around Amat, the fastest player you'll ever see; Benji, the intense lone wolf; and Vidar, a born-to-be-bad troublemaker. But bringing this team together proves to be a challenge as old bonds are broken, new ones are formed, and the enmity with Hed grows more and more heated. As the big game between Beartown and Hed approaches, the not-so-innocent pranks and incidents between the communities pile up. By the time the last game is finally played, a resident of Beartown will be dead, and the people of both towns will be forced to wonder if, after all they've been through, the game they love can ever return to something simple and innocent. *Us Against You* is a declaration of love for all the big and small, bright and dark stories that form and colour our communities. Compelling and heartbreaking, it's a roller-coaster ride of emotions and a showcase for "Fredrik Backman's pitch-perfect dialogue and unparalleled understanding of human nature" (Shelf Awareness).

50 great book club questions: *Bear Has a Story to Tell* Philip C. Stead, 2012-09-04 Bear, with the help of his animal friends, remembers the story he had hoped to tell before the onset of winter. Full color.

50 great book club questions: *House of Leaves* Mark Z. Danielewski, 2000-03-07 "A novelistic mosaic that simultaneously reads like a thriller and like a strange, dreamlike excursion into the subconscious." —The New York Times Years ago, when *House of Leaves* was first being passed around, it was nothing more than a badly bundled heap of paper, parts of which would occasionally surface on the Internet. No one could have anticipated the small but devoted following this terrifying story would soon command. Starting with an odd assortment of marginalized youth -- musicians, tattoo artists, programmers, strippers, environmentalists, and adrenaline junkies -- the book eventually made its way into the hands of older generations, who not only found themselves in those strangely arranged pages but also discovered a way back into the lives of their estranged children. Now this astonishing novel is made available in book form, complete with the original colored words, vertical footnotes, and second and third appendices. The story remains unchanged, focusing on a young family that moves into a small home on Ash Tree Lane where they discover something is terribly wrong: their house is bigger on the inside than it is on the outside. Of course, neither Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist Will Navidson nor his companion Karen Green was prepared to face the consequences of that impossibility, until the day their two little children wandered off and their voices eerily began to return another story -- of creature darkness, of an ever-growing abyss behind a closet door, and of that unholy growl which soon enough would tear through their walls and consume all their dreams.

50 great book club questions: *The Ghost Map* Steven Johnson, 2006 It is the summer of 1854. Cholera has seized London with unprecedented intensity. A metropolis of more than 2 million people, London is just emerging as one of the first modern cities in the world. But lacking the infrastructure necessary to support its dense population - garbage removal, clean water, sewers - the city has become the perfect breeding ground for a terrifying disease that no one knows how to cure. As their neighbors begin dying, two men are spurred to action: the Reverend Henry Whitehead, whose faith in a benevolent God is shaken by the seemingly random nature of the victims, and Dr. John Snow, whose ideas about contagion have been dismissed by the scientific community, but who is convinced that he knows how the disease is being transmitted. *The Ghost Map* chronicles the outbreak's spread and the desperate efforts to put an end to the epidemic - and solve the most pressing medical riddle of the age.--BOOK JACKET.

50 great book club questions: *The Well-Educated Mind: A Guide to the Classical Education You Never Had (Updated and Expanded)* Susan Wise Bauer, 2015-11-16 The enduring and engaging guide to educating yourself in the classical tradition. Have you lost the art of reading for pleasure? Are there books you know you should read but haven't because they seem too

daunting? In *The Well-Educated Mind*, Susan Wise Bauer provides a welcome and encouraging antidote to the distractions of our age, electronic and otherwise. Newly expanded and updated to include standout works from the twenty-first century as well as essential readings in science (from the earliest works of Hippocrates to the discovery of the asteroid that killed the dinosaurs), *The Well-Educated Mind* offers brief, entertaining histories of six literary genres—fiction, autobiography, history, drama, poetry, and science—accompanied by detailed instructions on how to read each type. The annotated lists at the end of each chapter—ranging from Cervantes to Cormac McCarthy, Herodotus to Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, Aristotle to Stephen Hawking—preview recommended reading and encourage readers to make vital connections between ancient traditions and contemporary writing. *The Well-Educated Mind* reassures those readers who worry that they read too slowly or with below-average comprehension. If you can understand a daily newspaper, there's no reason you can't read and enjoy Shakespeare's sonnets or *Jane Eyre*. But no one should attempt to read the "Great Books" without a guide and a plan. Bauer will show you how to allocate time to reading on a regular basis; how to master difficult arguments; how to make personal and literary judgments about what you read; how to appreciate the resonant links among texts within a genre—what does *Anna Karenina* owe to *Madame Bovary*?—and also between genres. In her best-selling work on home education, *The Well-Trained Mind*, the author provided a road map of classical education for parents wishing to home-school their children; that book is now the premier resource for home-schoolers. In *The Well-Educated Mind*, Bauer takes the same elements and techniques and adapts them to the use of adult readers who want both enjoyment and self-improvement from the time they spend reading. Followed carefully, her advice will restore and expand the pleasure of the written word.

50 great book club questions: *Summer in a Glass* Evan Dawson, 2011-04-05 New Yorks Finger Lakes is home to the countrys fastest-growing wine region, and each year millions of tourists spill into the tasting rooms of its wineries. Filled with fun and likable characters, *Summer in a Glass* brings this burgeoning area to life and captures its exciting diversity--from its immigrant German winemakers to its young, technically trained connoisseurs, from classic Rieslings to up-and-coming Cabernet Francs.

50 great book club questions: *The Way of Integrity* Martha Beck, 2021-04-13 OPRAH'S BOOK CLUB PICK AN INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER "A roadmap on the journey to truth and authenticity... [The Way of Integrity] is filled with aha moments and practical exercises that can guide us as we seek enlightenment." -Oprah Winfrey Bestselling author, life coach, and sociologist Martha Beck explains why "integrity"—needed now more than ever in these tumultuous times—is the key to a meaningful and joyful life As Martha Beck says in her book, "Integrity is the cure for psychological suffering. Period." In *The Way of Integrity*, Beck presents a four-stage process that anyone can use to find integrity, and with it, a sense of purpose, emotional healing, and a life free of mental suffering. Much of what plagues us—people pleasing, staying in stale relationships, negative habits—all point to what happens when we are out of touch with what truly makes us feel whole. Inspired by *The Divine Comedy*, Beck uses Dante's classic hero's journey as a framework to break down the process of attaining personal integrity into small, manageable steps. She shows how to read our internal signals that lead us towards our true path, and to recognize what we actually yearn for versus what our culture sells us. With techniques tested on hundreds of her clients, Beck brings her expertise as a social scientist, life coach and human being to help readers to uncover what integrity looks like in their own lives. She takes us on a spiritual adventure that not only will change the direction of our lives, but also bring us to a place of genuine happiness.

50 great book club questions: *When No One Is Watching* Alyssa Cole, 2020-09-01 An instant NEW YORK TIMES and USA TODAY BESTSELLER! I was knocked over by the momentum of an intense psychological thriller that doesn't let go until the final page. This is a terrific read. - Alafair Burke, New York Times bestselling author *A Marie Claire Book Club Pick* Rear Window meets Get Out in this gripping thriller from a critically acclaimed and New York Times Notable author, in which the gentrification of a Brooklyn neighborhood takes on a sinister new meaning... Sydney Green is Brooklyn born and raised, but her beloved neighborhood seems to change every

time she blinks. Condos are sprouting like weeds, FOR SALE signs are popping up overnight, and the neighbors she's known all her life are disappearing. To hold onto her community's past and present, Sydney channels her frustration into a walking tour and finds an unlikely and unwanted assistant in one of the new arrivals to the block—her neighbor Theo. But Sydney and Theo's deep dive into history quickly becomes a dizzying descent into paranoia and fear. Their neighbors may not have moved to the suburbs after all, and the push to revitalize the community may be more deadly than advertised. When does coincidence become conspiracy? Where do people go when gentrification pushes them out? Can Sydney and Theo trust each other—or themselves—long enough to find out before they too disappear? Featured in Parade, Essence, Bustle, Popsugar, Elle, Shondaland, Marie Claire, BuzzFeed, Entertainment Weekly, Good Housekeeping, Brit + Co, Real Simple, Lit Hub, Crime Reads, Blavity, Ms. Magazine, Hello Giggles, The New York Times, Town & Country, Newsweek, New York Post, Refinery29, Woman's World, Washington Post, the Skimm, Book Riot, Bookish, Huffington Post, and more!

50 great book club questions: A Most Beautiful Thing Arshay Cooper, 2020-06-30
REGIONAL BESTSELLER Now a documentary narrated by Common, produced by Grant Hill, Dwyane Wade, and 9th Wonder, from filmmaker Mary Mazzio The moving true story of a group of young men growing up on Chicago's West side who form the first all-Black high school rowing team in the nation, and in doing so not only transform a sport, but their lives. Growing up on Chicago's Westside in the 90's, Arshay Cooper knows the harder side of life. The street corners are full of gangs, the hallways of his apartment complex are haunted by drug addicts he calls "zombies" with strung out arms, clutching at him as he passes by. His mother is a recovering addict, and his three siblings all sleep in a one room apartment, a small infantry against the war zone on the street below. Arshay keeps to himself, preferring to write poetry about the girl he has a crush on, and spends his school days in the home-ec kitchen dreaming of becoming a chef. And then one day as he's walking out of school he notices a boat in the school lunchroom, and a poster that reads "Join the Crew Team". Having no idea what the sport of crew is, Arshay decides to take a chance. This decision to join is one that will forever change his life, and those of his fellow teammates. As Arshay and his teammates begin to come together to learn how to row--many never having been in water before--the sport takes them from the mean streets of Chicago, to the hallowed halls of the Ivy League. But Arshay and his teammates face adversity at every turn, from racism, gang violence, and a sport that has never seen anyone like them before. A Most Beautiful Thing is the inspiring true story about the most unlikely band of brothers that form a family, and forever change a sport and their lives for the better.

50 great book club questions: All the Names They Used for God Anjali Sachdeva, 2019-06-18
"One of the best collections I've ever read. Every single story is a standout."—Roxane Gay WINNER OF THE CHAUTAUQUA PRIZE • LONGLISTED FOR THE STORY PRIZE • NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY NPR • Refinery29 • BookRiot "Fuses science, myth, and imagination into a dark and gorgeous series of questions about our current predicaments."—Anthony Doerr, author of All the Light We Cannot See A dystopian tale about genetically modified septuplets who are struck by a mysterious illness; a love story about a man bewitched by a mermaid; a stirring imagining of the lives of Nigerian schoolgirls in the aftermath of a Boko Haram kidnapping. The stories in All the Names They Used for God break down genre barriers—from science fiction to American Gothic to magical realism to horror—and are united by each character's brutal struggle with fate. Like many of us, the characters in this collection are in pursuit of the sublime. Along the way, they must navigate the borderland between salvation and destruction. NAMED A MUST-READ BOOK BY Harper's Bazaar • Entertainment Weekly • AM New York • Reading Women AND A TOP READ BY Elle • Fast Company • The Christian Science Monitor • Bustle • Shondaland • Popsugar • Refinery29 • Bookish • Newsday • The Millions • Asian American Writers' Workshop • HelloGiggles "Strange and wonderful . . . delightfully unexpected."—The New York Times Book Review "Completing one [story] is like having lived an entire life, and then being born, breathless, into another."—Carmen Maria Machado "Captivating."—NPR "Gripping."—Los Angeles Review of Books

"[A] remarkable debut . . . Sachdeva is seemingly fearless and her talent limitless."—AM New York
"This phenomenal debut short-story collection is filled with stories that bring the otherworldly to life and examine the strangeness of humanity."—Bustle "So rich they read like dreams . . . They are enormous stories, not in length but in ambition, each an entirely new, unsparing world. Beautiful, draining—and entirely unforgettable."—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

50 great book club questions: Love Toni Morrison, 2023-09-07 VINTAGE CLASSICS'
AMERICAN GOTHIC SERIESSpine-tingling, mind-altering and deliciously atmospheric, journey into the dark side of America with nine of its most uncanny classics.A haunting and affecting meditation on love from the Nobel-prize winning author of *Beloved*.May, Christine, Heed, Junior, Vida - even L - all are women obsessed wit[Bokinfo].

50 great book club questions: A Good Neighborhood Therese Anne Fowler, 2020-03-10
INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER * One of NPR's Best Books of 2020 A provocative, absorbing read. — People "A feast of a read... I finished *A Good Neighborhood* in a single sitting. Yes, it's that good." —Jodi Picoult, #1New York Times bestselling author of *Small Great Things*and *A Spark of Light* In Oak Knoll, a verdant, tight-knit North Carolina neighborhood, professor of forestry and ecology Valerie Alston-Holt is raising her bright and talented biracial son, Xavier, who's headed to college in the fall. All is well until the Whitmans—a family with new money and a secretly troubled teenage daughter—raze the house and trees next door to build themselves a showplace. With little in common except a property line, these two families quickly find themselves at odds: first, over an historic oak tree in Valerie's yard, and soon after, the blossoming romance between their two teenagers. *A Good Neighborhood* asks big questions about life in America today—what does it mean to be a good neighbor? How do we live alongside each other when we don't see eye to eye?—as it explores the effects of class, race, and heartrending love in a story that's as provocative as it is powerful.

50 great book club questions: The Guest Book Sarah Blake, 2019-05-07 Instant New York Times Bestseller Longlisted for Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence 2020 New England Society Book Award Winner for Fiction "The Guest Book is monumental in a way that few novels dare attempt." —The Washington Post The thought-provoking new novel by New York Times bestselling author Sarah Blake An exquisitely written, poignant family saga that illuminates the great divide, the gulf that separates the rich and poor, black and white, Protestant and Jew. Spanning three generations, *The Guest Book* deftly examines the life and legacy of one unforgettable family as they navigate the evolving social and political landscape from Crockett's Island, their family retreat off the coast of Maine. Blake masterfully lays bare the memories and mistakes each generation makes while coming to terms with what it means to inherit the past.

50 great book club questions: Better Luck Next Time Julia Claiborne Johnson, 2021-01-05
"Doesn't a romantic comedy set on a 1930s Nevada dude ranch teeming with about-to-be-divorced women owe a certain debt to the era's big-screen classics? Then again, it's hard to believe a cinematic version could be any more fun." — New York Times Book Review The dazzling second novel from the bestselling author of *Be Frank with Me*, a charming story of endings, new beginnings, and the complexities and complications of friendship and love, set in late 1930s Reno. It's 1938 and women seeking a quick, no-questions split from their husbands head to the "divorce capital of the world," Reno, Nevada. There's one catch: they have to wait six-weeks to become "residents." Many of these wealthy, soon-to-be divorcees flock to the Flying Leap, a dude ranch that caters to their every need. Twenty-four-year-old Ward spent one year at Yale before his family lost everything in the Great Depression; now he's earning an honest living as a ranch hand at the Flying Leap. Admired for his dashing good looks—"Cary Grant in cowboy boots"—Ward thinks he's got the Flying Leap's clients all figured out. But two new guests are about to upend everything he thinks he knows: Nina, a St Louis heiress and amateur pilot back for her third divorce, and Emily, whose bravest moment in life was leaving her cheating husband back in San Francisco and driving herself to Reno. A novel about divorce, marriage, and everything that comes in between (money, class, ambition, and opportunity), *Better Luck Next Time* is a hilarious yet poignant examination of the ways friendship

can save us, love can destroy us, and the family we create can be stronger than the family we come from.

50 great book club questions: The Reading List Sara Nisha Adams, 2021-08-03 A BEST OF SUMMER READ ACCORDING TO NEWSWEEK, PARADE MAGAZINE, NBC NEWS, LITHUB, AND POPSUGAR! The most heartfelt read of the summer...a surprising delight of a novel.--Shondaland An unforgettable and heartwarming debut about how a chance encounter with a list of library books helps forge an unlikely friendship between two very different people in a London suburb. Widower Mukesh lives a quiet life in Wembley, in West London after losing his beloved wife. He shops every Wednesday, goes to Temple, and worries about his granddaughter, Priya, who hides in her room reading while he spends his evenings watching nature documentaries. Aleisha is a bright but anxious teenager working at the local library for the summer when she discovers a crumpled-up piece of paper in the back of To Kill a Mockingbird. It's a list of novels that she's never heard of before. Intrigued, and a little bored with her slow job at the checkout desk, she impulsively decides to read every book on the list, one after the other. As each story gives up its magic, the books transport Aleisha from the painful realities she's facing at home. When Mukesh arrives at the library, desperate to forge a connection with his bookworm granddaughter, Aleisha passes along the reading list...hoping that it will be a lifeline for him too. Slowly, the shared books create a connection between two lonely souls, as fiction helps them escape their grief and everyday troubles and find joy again.

50 great book club questions: The Day the World Came to Town Jim DeFede, 2011-07-12 The True Story Behind the Events on 9/11 that Inspired Broadway's Smash Hit Musical Come from Away, Featuring All New Material from the Author When 38 jetliners bound for the United States were forced to land at Gander International Airport in Canada by the closing of U.S. airspace on September 11, the population of this small town on Newfoundland Island swelled from 10,300 to nearly 17,000. The citizens of Gander met the stranded passengers with an overwhelming display of friendship and goodwill. As the passengers stepped from the airplanes, exhausted, hungry and distraught after being held on board for nearly 24 hours while security checked all of the baggage, they were greeted with a feast prepared by the townspeople. Local bus drivers who had been on strike came off the picket lines to transport the passengers to the various shelters set up in local schools and churches. Linens and toiletries were bought and donated. A middle school provided showers, as well as access to computers, email, and televisions, allowing the passengers to stay in touch with family and follow the news. Over the course of those four days, many of the passengers developed friendships with Gander residents that they expect to last a lifetime. As a show of thanks, scholarship funds for the children of Gander have been formed and donations have been made to provide new computers for the schools. This book recounts the inspiring story of the residents of Gander, Canada, whose acts of kindness have touched the lives of thousands of people and been an example of humanity and goodwill.

50 great book club questions: Less Perfection Learning Corporation, 2019

50 great book club questions: Caleb's Crossing Geraldine Brooks, 2011-04-28 A novel from Pulitzer Prize-winner Geraldine Brooks, author of the Richard and Judy bestseller 'March', 'Year of Wonders' and 'People of the Book'.

Additional Resources

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