



Maryland Humanities
108 West Centre Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

(410) 685-0095
www.mdhumanities.org

A PROGRAM OF



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



LEAD SPONSORS



SPONSORS



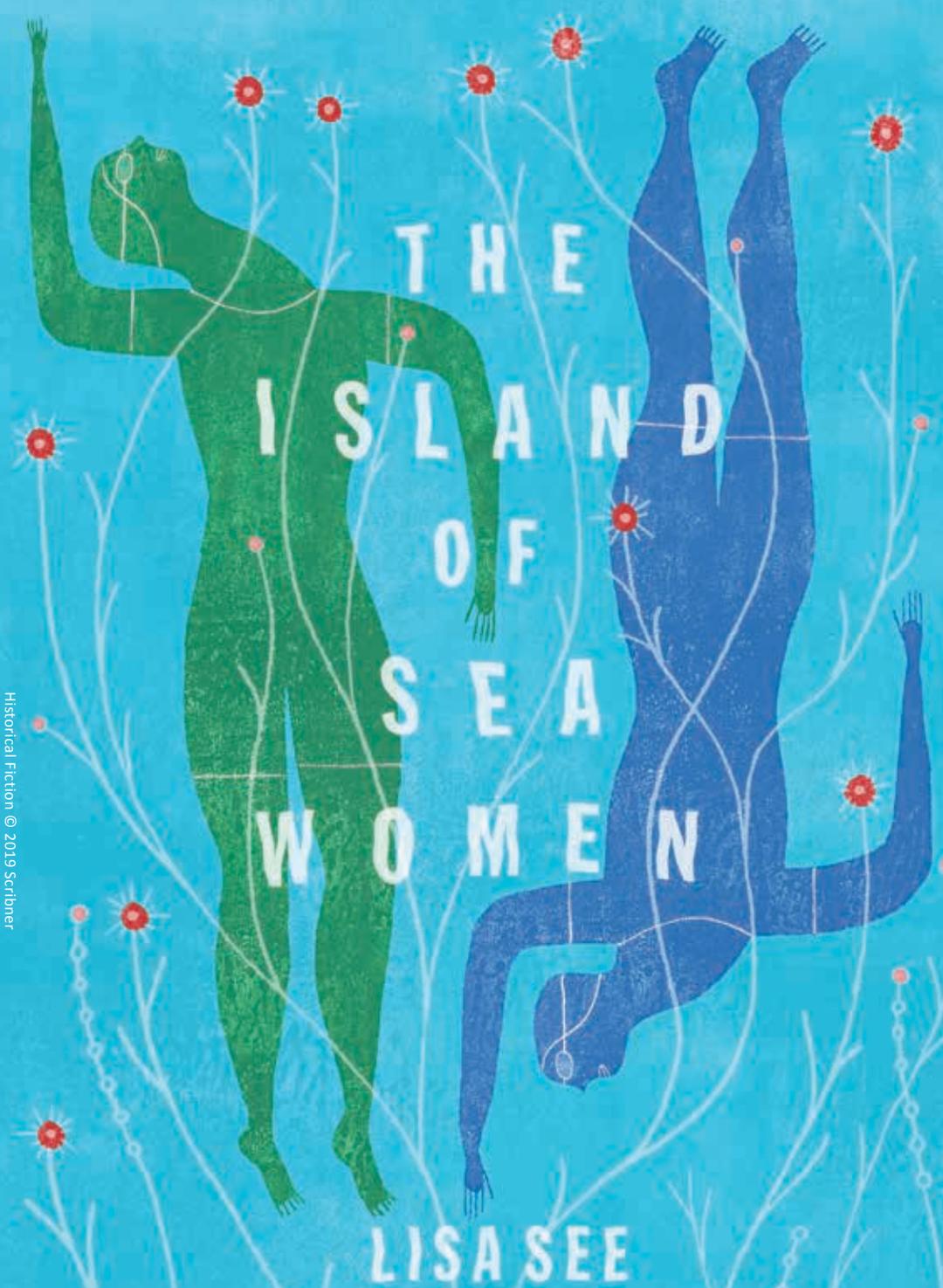
ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM



ONE MARYLAND ONE BOOK 2020

READER'S GUIDE

Historical Fiction © 2019 Scribner



WHAT IF EVERYONE READ THE SAME BOOK AT THE SAME TIME, THEN CAME TOGETHER TO TALK ABOUT IT?

When we read a great book, we can't wait to share the experience with others. That's one of the joys of reading. In this spirit, Maryland Humanities created One Maryland One Book to bring together diverse people in communities across the state through the shared experience of reading the same book.

Now in its thirteenth year, One Maryland One Book remains Maryland's only statewide community reading program. Each year, the selection process is guided by a common theme. The theme for 2020 is "Friendship."

The Maryland Center for the Book at Maryland Humanities partners with public libraries, high schools, colleges and universities, museums, bookstores, correctional facilities, and other organizations to bring book-centered discussions and other related events to communities across Maryland. But One Maryland One Book is not just about reading or literature; it is also about bringing people together for meaningful dialogue.

The book selected for 2020 is *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See.

GRAB YOUR COPY

Find a copy of *The Island of Sea Women* at your local library or bookstore and get reading! What if a copy of *The Island of Sea Women* finds you? If you're out and about, you might find copies of the book in unexpected places. Our Wandering Books can be found in a myriad of public spaces from bus stops to doctor's offices to coffee shops. If you find a copy, it's yours for a short time. Register the book online so we can see how far it travels (instructions are included inside the book). Read it, review it,

and then leave it somewhere for someone else to find and enjoy.

REACH OUT

Each year, nearly 20,000 Marylanders read the One Maryland One Book selection. How many of those people are your friends or family? Use the book to jumpstart a meaningful conversation in person or virtually with an old friend or to make a new one.

PULL UP A CHAIR

We invite you to join Maryland Humanities and thousands of other Marylanders at one of the many book discussions and related events happening around the state and online from mid-September to mid-November, including the author tour. To find One Maryland One Book programs your area, go to www.onemarylandonebook.org and click on Events.

For all the latest information, "like" or follow us:

 [facebook.com/MDCenterfortheBook](https://www.facebook.com/MDCenterfortheBook)

 [@MDHumanities](https://twitter.com/MDHumanities)

 [@MDHumanities](https://www.instagram.com/MDHumanities)

Be sure to check for the dates of Lisa See's appearances this fall.

After each One Maryland One Book program you attend, please visit omobfeedback.org and share your thoughts by taking our brief survey.

ONE MARYLAND ONE BOOK 2020 WELCOME LETTER



Thank you for joining Maryland Humanities for the thirteenth year of One Maryland One Book, our state's largest reading and discussion program. Since 2008, readers across Maryland have embraced our annual tradition of bringing people together through the reading of one book selected by members of Maryland's literary community. This year, we find ourselves in a world that looks very different than it has at any time in recent history. It has been a time of terrible loss for so many. What this loss has wrought is a coming together that is burgeoning and brings us hope, as we push towards a brighter future. One of the ways that we, and countless others, have found hope (and escape) in 2020 is through literature. Literature encourages us to reflect, brings us joy, pushes us to know ourselves better, and offers a window into the lives of those near and far.

Each year we explore the power of literature through discussions and events across the state. Whether in a friend's home for a book club, at libraries, in high school or university classrooms, at senior centers, or in correctional facilities, thousands of Marylanders connect in their communities to read our chosen book. Although many gatherings may take place virtually this year, this shared experience lies at the heart of One Maryland One Book. Whether you read with us every year or are new to the program, welcome!

The Island of Sea Women takes us into the lives of a close-knit community of strong and spirited Korean women, offering a glimpse of a past time through the rich culture of the haenyeo. Spanning decades and several wars, the story reveals insights into details rarely taught during our formal education—the personal impact decades of conflict has on the people who fight in wars and the people where those wars are fought. At its core, this is a book about friendship in all its joys and complications. Young-sook and Mi-ja faced great adversity, both in their lives and their bond. As you make your way through the story, you will find yourself examining the innate endurance of friendship and the role of forgiveness.

We encourage you to pick up a copy of *The Island of Sea Women* and join the conversation at one of our many public discussion programs across the state, whether in person or online. A program of the Maryland Center for the Book at Maryland Humanities, One Maryland One Book is made possible each year through the generosity of our sponsors and community partners. We greatly thank them for their support. Find out how you can get involved at www.onemarylandonebook.org.

Please join us!

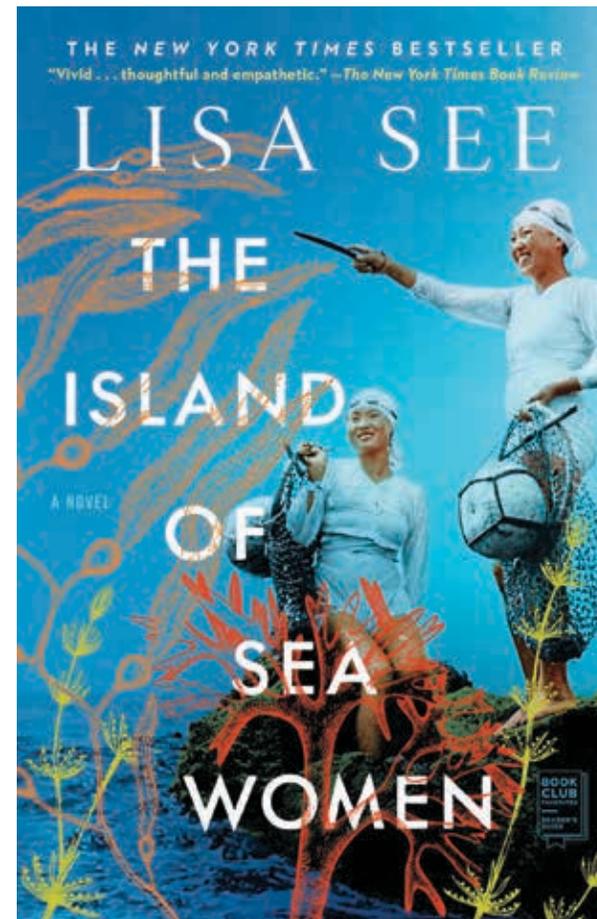
Cynthia Raposo, Board Chair
Aaron Heinsman, Acting Executive Director

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

LISA SEE—In her beloved *New York Times* bestsellers, which include *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, *Peony in Love*, *Shanghai Girls*, *Dreams of Joy*, *China Dolls*, and *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*, Lisa See brilliantly illuminates the immigrant experience and the indissoluble bonds between women. Her newest novel is a story of family secrets and female friendship on a remote Korean Island. *The Island of Sea Women* introduces readers to the fierce and unforgettable women divers of Jeju Island and the dramatic history that shaped their lives. Her first book, the national bestseller and *New York Times* Notable Book *On Gold Mountain: The One Hundred Year Odyssey of My Chinese-American Family*, traces the journey of her great-grandfather, Fong See, who overcame obstacles at every step to become the 100-year-old godfather of Los Angeles's Chinatown and the patriarch of a sprawling family. See was the *Publishers Weekly* West Coast correspondent for thirteen years, and her articles have appeared in *Vogue*, *Self*, and *More*. <http://www.lyceumagency.com/speakers/lisa-see/>



Photo Credit Patricia Williams



ABOUT THE BOOK

Set on the Korean Island of Jeju, *The Island of Sea Women* follows Mi-ja and Young-sook, two girls from very different backgrounds, as they begin working in the sea with their village's all-female diving collective. Over many decades—through the Japanese colonialism of the 1930s and 1940s, World War II, the Korean War, and the era of cell phones and wet suits for the women divers—Mi-ja and Young-sook develop the closest of bonds. Nevertheless, their differences are impossible to ignore: Mi-ja is the daughter of a Japanese collaborator, forever marking her, and Young-sook was born into a long line of haenyeo and will inherit her mother's position leading the divers. After hundreds of dives and years of friendship, forces outside their control will push their relationship to the breaking point.

This beautiful, thoughtful novel illuminates a unique and unforgettable culture, one where the women are in charge, engaging in dangerous physical work, and the men take care of the children. A classic Lisa See story—one of women's friendships and the larger forces that shape them—*The Island of Sea Women* introduces readers to the fierce female divers of Jeju Island and the dramatic history that shaped their lives.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- *The Island of Sea Women* chronicles the decades-long friendship between Young-sook and Mi-ja, yet the novel is told only from Young-sook's point-of-view. Why do you think the author chose to do this? What could Mi-ja's point-of-view have added to the narrative? Would it have produced a more well-rounded view of their friendship?
- When Young-sook and Mi-ja are teenagers, Young-sook's mother tells them, "Many girls have friends, but the two of you are closer than friends. You are like sisters, and I expect you to take care of each other today and every day as those tied by blood would do" (13). How does this quote foreshadow the events to come in the novel? How do you treat someone related by blood differently than a friend? Or should you treat them differently?
- What's the importance of shamanism and specifically Shaman Kim to the haenyeo? What does it mean to them that they're practicing even though it's been outlawed by the Japanese (28)? Would you take the risk to practice your beliefs?
- "My father was no help. He was a kind man, but he shuddered under the added responsibility...No man was built to shoulder the full weight of feeding and caring for his family. That was why he had a wife and daughters" (71). How does that quote highlight the difference between the haenyeo, a matrifocal society, and Western society? Was it surprising to learn about the haenyeos' family dynamics?
- Water and the sea are symbols throughout the novel. What does the water do for the characters who have experienced tragedy? Young-sook lost her mother to the sea but says years later in 2008, "She'd always felt healthiest when she dove too, always felt healed in the water. Whenever she had problems in her life, she went diving" (76).
- How does marriage change Young-sook and Mi-ja, both individually and in their friendship?
- Young-sook's husband, Jun-bu, wants all of their children, including their daughters, to be educated (160). How does this differ from the traditional haenyeo way of life?
- From an outsider's point-of-view, there wasn't anything Mi-ja could have done differently to save Young-sook's children during the Bukchon Massacre. Given the intensity and horror of the scene, could you imagine being in Mi-ja's situation? Would you have been brave enough to try and take your friend's children?
- For the longest time Young-sook holds the deepest anger and resentment towards her former best friend, Mi-ja, even at one point thinking, "Many women are beaten, but they don't betray their closest friend" (312). Knowing the inner turmoil Mi-ja went through, do you feel any sympathy towards her?
- On page 314 Clara recites the Buddhist proverb, "To understand everything is to forgive." Do you believe this to be true? Given what happens in the novel do you believe Young-sook finally found forgiveness? Is forgiving someone for them or for you or for both?
- When Young-sook visits Shaman Kim to tell her of her new granddaughter, Shaman Kim tells Young-sook, "You are not being punished for your anger. You're being punished by your anger." Have you been in a similar situation? Can you relate to Young-sook's hurt and anger?

- The novel is broken into five parts: Friendship, Love, Fear, Blame, and Forgiveness. Why do you think the author chose this structure? What does it add to the story?
- The novel is told from Young-sook's perspective, as a Korean haenyeo. Americans and Westerners are featured in the novel. How are they portrayed? Does this broaden your view on how other countries see the United States and Western society?
- How does the twist at the end of the novel put into perspective the way Young-sook treated Clara and her family? What does it add to the 2008 sections of the novel?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Each year we hope that your participation in One Maryland One Book inspires continued exploration of the themes and topics examined in the selected book. This year's selection offers an excellent opportunity to explore a disappearing, matrifocal culture and the value of friendship. The following list of books, movies, and podcasts might be of interest after reading *The Island of Sea Women*. While we include suggested age groups for the readings, they are just a guide. Feel free to choose based on your interests. We encourage you to continue your exploration!

ADULT FICTION

The Story of Arthur Truluv by Elizabeth Berg

What makes a family? Berg's heartwarming story tries to answer this question with warmth. Widower Arthur, pregnant teen Maddy, and Arthur's overbearing neighbor Lucille form a fast friendship against all odds.

Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi

Homegoing begins in the mid-1700s in Ghana with the stories of Effia and Esi, two half-sisters who live very different lives. Effia marries a British governor and moves to the Castle on the Gold Coast, while Esi is captured and sold into slavery. The book is told in fourteen chapters, each from the perspective of one of their descendants and spanning 250 years.

The Orphan's Tale by Pam Jenoff

Teen-aged Noa rescues a Jewish baby from a boxcar in Nazi Germany and finds sanctuary with a traveling circus that shelters Jewish performers. Noa finds that the unlikely bonds formed with the other performers become stronger than ties to her own family, as they protect each other from the atrocities of World War II. Jenoff was inspired to write this story based on actual events she uncovered while researching in the Yad Vashem (The World Holocaust Remembrance Center) archive.

This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger

It's *Huck Finn* and friends meet *The Odyssey* in this haunting coming of age story set in Depression-era America. Odie and company run away from a sadistically cruel "Indian" boarding school. Ravidly pursued by school authorities, the four friends travel the Mississippi on a raft in an epic journey, meeting angels, devils, and everyone in between along the way in this powerful testament to the intense and life-changing friendships of youth.

Pachinko by Min Jin Lee

The daughter of a poor fisherman in Korea, Sunja has an unplanned pregnancy that sets her life in motion. Her new life starts in Japan, where the choices made affect generations of her family throughout the Twentieth Century in this sweeping saga of love and hope.

Sula by Toni Morrison

A powerful novel centering on two friends, Sula and Nel, and their lives in a small Ohio town from their childhood to adulthood. Conventional Nel chooses to stay, marry, have children, and become a pillar in her community, while Sula is a pariah who leaves town for college and the lure of a big city, only to return ten years later. Eventually, their friendship ends in hurt and betrayal.

The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes

The Packhorse Libraries, an initiative of the federal New Deal during the Great Depression, delivered both books and friendship to isolated families in the Appalachian Mountains. British transplant Alice Van Cleve rebels against her loveless marriage by volunteering to join up with the controversial "librarians on horseback." When disapproving town elders try to dismantle the project, Alice and her fellow librarians gather forces in a show of strength and unlikely friendships and battle to keep the book delivery service—and its aim of promoting literacy to the poor—from being shuttered.

Chances Are... by Richard Russo

Teddy, Lincoln, and Mickey have been friends since meeting in college in the sixties. The long-ago disappearance of a woman they all loved has also bound them together and now, 44 years later, they reconvene on Martha's Vineyard to finally unravel that mystery. Suspense and menace infuse this absorbing saga of male friendship.

Swing Time by Zadie Smith

Two young London girls dream of being dancers. As they age, neither quite achieves their dream, nor does their friendship remain intact. But that is just the story on the surface. In this ambitious novel, both the characters and the reader must contemplate issues of race, class, immigration, celebrity culture, and how we are all a small part of an interconnected world.

The Dearly Beloved by Cara Wall

Two married couples—Charles and Lily, and James and Nan—find themselves in a forced friendship when both husbands, each newly minted ministers, are assigned to the same New York City church in a neighborhood undergoing profound cultural and societal change in the second half of the Twentieth Century. Despite different beliefs and backgrounds, the four of them forge unique bonds that ebb and flow but ultimately provide strength through joy and tragedy in this luminous novel.

The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead

Elwood Curtis has a bright future ahead of him, until he is sent to the Nickel Academy, a reform school for boys. Life at Nickel Academy is tense, abusive, and at times deadly. The only bright light for Elwood is his friendship with fellow juvenile delinquent Turner. Whitehead's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel is based on a Florida reform school known for its corruption and abuse.

The Interestings by Meg Wolitzer

When six teens meet at an upstate New York summer arts camp in 1974, they form an instant bond and ironically dub themselves "The Interestings," because they're certain they're destined for greatness. The novel follows The Interestings' lives from 1974 to the present revealing the differences in their fates, what their talents have become, and the shapes their lives have taken.

A Little Life by Hanya Yanagihara

Four young men leave their small college to make their way in the big city of New York. Though they come from different backgrounds and follow different paths, their friendship is a steady presence. In this sprawling and deeply moving novel, the men grow into middle age, with the baggage of early life trauma never leaving them.

How Much of These Hills Is Gold by C. Pam Zhang

Debut novelist Zhang brings us the story of siblings, Lucy and Sam, whose family left China for North America and the Gold Rush. Orphaned at a young age and on their own, they are searching for a final resting place for their beloved father. They encounter many obstacles along the way as they try to survive the brutal world filled with sibling rivalry, family secrets, and hope for a better future.

ADULT NONFICTION

The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics by Daniel James Brown

The improbable, intimate account of how nine working-class boys from the American West banded together to show the world at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin what true grit really meant. Drawing on the boys' own journals and vivid memories of a once-in-a-lifetime shared dream, Brown has created an unforgettable chronicle of an era. An inspiring story about overcoming the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times. This book was the One Maryland One Book selection in 2015.

Let's Take the Long Way Home: A Memoir of Friendship by Gail Caldwell

Gail Caldwell is a well-respected and much-lauded critic. Caroline Knapp was an author whose most famous book chronicled her drinking problem. They bonded over dogs, books, addiction, and walks outside. Their friendship reflected the life stages they were going through and helped them deal with all of life's passages. When Caroline is diagnosed with terminal lung cancer, the friendship takes its last journey.

TEEN

Carry On: A Story of Resilience, Redemption, and an Unlikely Family by Lisa Fenn

Lisa Fenn was working on human interest stories for ESPN when she saw an article about two extraordinary young men: Leroy, a wrestler with no legs and his blind friend, Dartanyon who carried Leroy on his back through the school halls. Ultimately creating much more than a film on their remarkable friendship, Lisa, Leroy, and Dartanyon became a family. A deeply moving memoir about the unexpected bonds that would transform three lives.

My Soul Looks Back by Jessica B. Harris

Harris, an award-winning food writer, recalls her life in the 1970s when she spent her formative years with a remarkable set of literary friends. They included James Baldwin, Nina Simone, and Maya Angelou to name a few. These friends helped shape and influence her as a young writer. Along with her recollections of these friendships, Harris includes some of her favorite recipes.

The Lost Prince: A Search for Pat Conroy by Michael Mewshaw

Michael Mewshaw made a promise to Pat Conroy to write about what happened between them. This is Mewshaw's account of their friendship as young writers with families living abroad in Italy. Their friendship, at times difficult and complex, fell apart over family issues, which caused the friendship to end with the two never reconciling.

The Hot One: A Memoir of Friendship, Sex, and Murder by Carolyn Murnick

Carolyn and Ashley were childhood best friends. As they grew older, they grew apart—as Ashley morphed into “the hot one” and Carolyn took the role of the smart, bookish friend. When Carolyn hears that Ashley, living in California and dating Ashton Kutcher pre-Demi Moore, was murdered, she's driven to uncover why their lives took such divergent paths. A thoughtful reflection on the power of childhood friendships to shape our views of who we are and how we fit into the world, as well as a damning indictment of a culture that prioritizes the sexualization of girls and young women.

My Glory Was I Had Such Friends by Amy Silverstein

When Amy Silverstein's donor heart went into a quick decline, her only option was to move across the country with her husband and wait for a new heart at Cedars-Sinai Hospital. Her friends sprang to action to make sure she always had someone with her. Nine women who Amy knew from different ages and stages of her life bonded together to provide Amy with everything that medicine could not. A candid and compelling reminder of the importance of showing up for those we love.

Zora and Langston: A Story of Friendship and Betrayal by Yuval Taylor

Literary giants of the Harlem Renaissance, Zora Neal Hurston and Langston Hughes were close friends with a complicated relationship. The author examines their friendship, their collaborative efforts, and their shared, controlling benefactor. The friendship is said to have been torn apart by one of their collaborative efforts. Or was their patron's control too much? Hurston and Hughes are shown as creative and ambitious writers who made their mark on literature.

I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives by Caitlin Alifirenka

Caitlin was thrilled when she was chosen to write a pen pal letter to a student in Zimbabwe, and since Martin was the top student in his class he was selected as a recipient. That letter was the start of a correspondence that lasted six years and a friendship that transformed many lives and persists to this day. This is *The New York Times* bestselling true story of an all-American girl, and a boy from Zimbabwe, and the letter that changed both of their lives forever.

The War Outside by Monica Hesse

In 1944 as WWII rages across Europe and the Pacific, two girls form an unlikely friendship. Japanese-American Haruko and German-American Margot are uprooted from their homes and imprisoned with their families at a Department of Justice-run internment camp. The girls are drawn together by the same fears and worries about their families. As their secret friendship becomes more intense and tension rises among the camp prisoners, they must determine if they can trust anyone—even each other. An extraordinary novel of injustice and xenophobia based on real history.

They Both Die at the End by Adam Silvera

What if an app could tell you it was the day you were going to die? Would you download it? Two teenage boys, Mateo and Rufus, discover today is their day. The app allows them to meet, and they spend their last hours on Earth helping each other to fulfill their final plans, and to become lifelong friends, however brief that life might be.

Rayne and Delilah's Midnite Matinee by Jeff Zentner

As high school draws to a close, Josie and Delia are at a crossroads. Josie is getting pressure from her family to go away to college, while Delia wants to stay in their hometown and see if they can take their cable access show to the next level. Hijinks ensue but with a touch of melancholy, as they come to realize that no matter what happens, things will never be the same.



CHILDREN

Count Me In by Varsha Bajaj

Karina has avoided her neighbor, Chris, and never thought they would become friends. She does not like his friends who have bullied her and called her names. When her grandfather starts tutoring Chris and as she gets to know him, she realizes he is funny and kind. When Karina and her grandfather are assaulted and called terrorists, she and Chris draw on their friendship to not let hate win.

Amina's Voice by Hena Khan

Amina loves to sing but has always been shy and uncomfortable in the spotlight. She's happy to just spend time with her best friend, Soojin. When Soojin starts hanging out with the cool girls and talking about changing her name, Amina begins to wonder if she will need to change to fit in, too.

The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend by Dan Santat

On the "island of imaginary friends" lives a small pudgy blob waiting to be adopted by a child. When he's finally discovered, he is given the name of Beekle. This Caldecott Medal-winning picture book touches on themes of emotions and the joy of making a new friend.

Just Ask!: Be Different, Be Brave, Be You by Sonia Sotomayor

Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor and award-winning artist Rafael Lopez create a kind and caring book about the differences that make each of us unique. In this inviting picture book, 12 friends are planting a garden. Although they are friends they are each unique and describe what makes them different. The garden becomes a metaphor for a community where all the ways we are different make our neighborhood more interesting. Along the way, Sotomayor quietly encourages those who don't understand someone else's differences to just ask that person or a parent.

Other Words for Home by Jasmine Warga

Told in verse and divided into five sections chronicling Jude's flight from Syria and adjustment to life in America, this powerful middle-grade novel explores the complicated concepts of war and corruption, home, family, and belonging. With the help of her fellow immigrant classmates and Layla, a new Arabic-speaking American friend, Jude adjusts to her new home and family while never forgetting what she left behind. This lyrical, life-affirming story is about losing and finding home and, most importantly, finding yourself.

FILMS

The Joy Luck Club (1993, 2 hrs. 19 min., Rated R)

Based on the novel by Amy Tan, four older Chinese-born women play Mahjong in San Francisco and share tragic stories of their lives back in China. Interwoven are stories from their adult daughters' contemporary American lives, resulting in a poignant and moving film of family, friendship, and the immigrant experience. *The Joy Luck Club* was inspired in part by events from the author's family events.

A Man Called Ove (2015, 1 hr. 56 min., Rated PG-13)

Ove is the epitome of a grumpy old man who spends his days making his neighbors' lives miserable. When a new family moves in next door, Ove develops an unforgettable friendship with the young couple and their two daughters. Based on the book by the same name.

Never Let Me Go (2010, 1 hr. 43 min., Rated R)

Friends Kathy, Tommy, and Ruth grow up together at a seemingly idyllic boarding school in the English countryside. When they leave the school and the horrible truth of their true purpose is revealed to them, they must simultaneously confront deep-seated feelings of love, jealousy, and betrayal that threaten to tear their friendship apart. Based on the novel by Kazuo Ishiguro.

Stand by Me (1986, 1 hr. 30 min., Rated R)

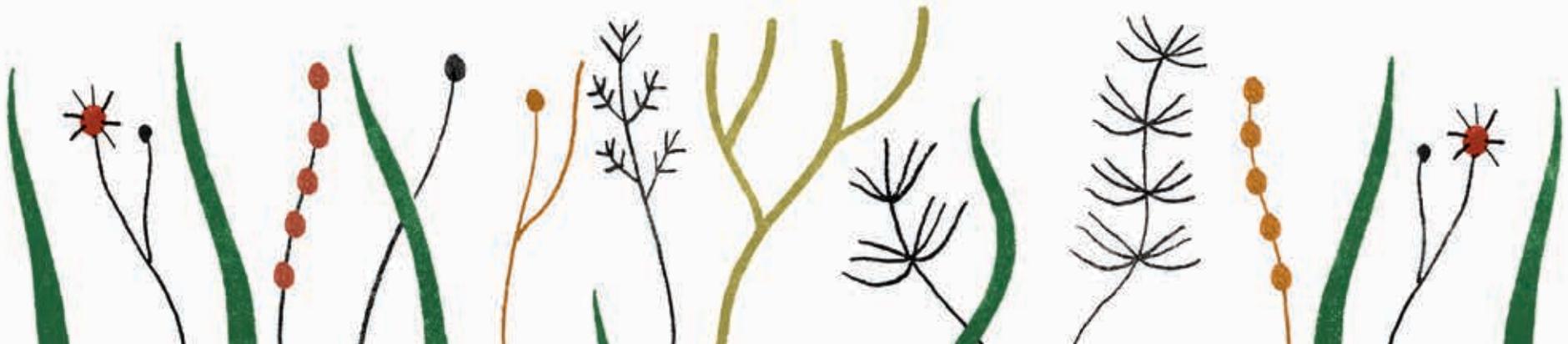
In the summer of 1959 in Oregon, four twelve-year-old boys search for a missing teen's body. They set off to find it and along their journey, they discover things about themselves and their friendship. Based on a Stephen King novella, *The Body*.

The Upside (2017, 2 hr. 6 min., Rated PG-13)

This movie is a remake of the French 2011 film *The Intouchables*, which was inspired by the life of Philippe Pozzo di Borgo. A funny, warm-hearted buddy comedy that explores the evolving relationship between two people who could not be more different.

Victoria and Abdul (2017, 1 hr. 51 min., Rated PG-13)

When Abdul Karim arrives from India to participate in Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee he finds a lonely, tired Queen. He piques the Queen's interest and a two-week stay evolves into 14 years. Abdul teaches her Urdu and the customs and cuisine of India. As their friendship deepens, Victoria begins to see a changing world through new eyes, joyfully reclaiming her humanity. Based on the book by Shrabani Basu.



PODCASTS AND VIDEOS

Best Friends with Nicole Byer and Sasheer Zamata

<https://www.earwolf.com/show/best-friends-with-nicole-byer-and-sasheer-zamata/>
Comedienne/actresses Byer and Zamata are real-life best friends, and they're glad to be friends with you, too, in this charming podcast. They answer questions, give advice, and share stories of life's ups and downs.

The Moth: International Day of Friendship Playlist

<https://themoth.org/dispatches/friendshipday2019-playlist>
The Moth says it best: "In this playlist, we're paying homage to the lifelong buddy, the ride-or-die, the one who lends an ear, or a shoulder to cry on, to help see us through the worst." These stories of friendship span the continents.

Partners

<https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/radiotopia/partners>
Friends are just one kind of partner. On this new podcast, partners of all kinds, such as musicians Tegan and Sara and artists Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal, do brief (under 20 minutes) talks about how they work and play together.

The Secret to Lifelong Friendship Ted Talk playlist

https://www.ted.com/playlists/633/the_secret_to_lifelong_friendship
Tough conversations, lasting memories, and shouldering loss together are among the topics covered in this playlist. These speakers embody the highs and lows of true friendship.

Step Inside the Island of Sea Women

<https://www.lisasee.com/islandofseawomen>
Lisa See's website offers historical and contemporary photographs and documentary footage of the women sea divers, known as haenyeo, and the island of Jeju. Learn more about this traditional and matrifocal way of life that is rapidly disappearing from modern culture.

MUSIC

It's Such a Good Feeling: The Best of Mr. Rogers

Music was always an integral part of Fred Rogers' beloved television program. A music composition major and pianist, he used his songs as a tool to bring comfort and explain complex concepts in a simple and effective way. Whether listening for the first time or through the filter of nostalgia, Mister Rogers' gentle guidance and peaceful approach to life continue to resonate.

The content and resources of this guide were created and compiled by Maryland Humanities, with significant contributions from the staff of Baltimore County Public Library. Portions have been reprinted with permission from Scribner.

One Maryland One Book is sponsored by the Institute of Museum & Library Services via LSTA grant funds received from the Maryland State Library, as well as PNC Foundation and BGE. Additional support is provided by M&T Bank, The Citizens of Baltimore County, and an anonymous donor. One Maryland One Book is coordinated by the Maryland Center for the Book, a program of Maryland Humanities, in partnership with Enoch Pratt Free Library. Activities in Baltimore City are supported in part by the Creative Baltimore Fund and Mayor Bernard C. "Jack" Young.

Maryland Humanities is an educational nonprofit. Our mission is to create and support educational experiences in the humanities that inspire all Marylanders to embrace lifelong learning, exchange ideas openly, and enrich their communities. To learn more, visit www.mdhumanities.org.

