

Reading Group Harmony

Good Stories Serious
Themes
November 2008

Dear Charlie,

Characters in discussible books frequently express their opinions about certain foods, wine, and music. Book groups eager to experience their selection sometimes accompany their discussion with a sampling of the characters' favorites. New suggestions of foods, wines, and music for your next gathering -- and of course of books to discuss -- await you in this month's **Reading Group Choices** newsletter.

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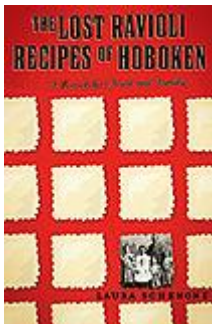
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Ravioli, Refrains, & Reading Groups



Laura Schenone, author of [The Lost Ravioli Recipes of Hoboken](#), brings love of family, place, and ethnicity to the table. Her touching quest to find her grandmother's ravioli recipe takes her from Hoboken to the shores of Liguria, Italy -- her family's homeland. With wine, food, and music, Laura's journey captures the complex and fascinating traits of her Italian heritage.

Discussible Music



How about music to link with your book selections - discussible music! This month, we bring you a new feature, **Music by the Book!** By bringing music to the conversation, your group will surround itself with the duet of music and literature.

To get us started, we have asked Tom Moon, author of [1,000 Recordings to Hear Before You Die: A Listener's Life List](#), to couple some recordings to enhance your reading and discussion of [The Lost Ravioli Recipes of Hoboken](#).

For your next reading group gathering, discover two of the **recipes** of this unforgettable quest; pair some of Laura's recipes with some excellent Italian wines in this month's **Wine by the Book** (by Laurie Forster, The Wine Coach® and author of **The Sipping Point**); and orchestrate a blending of music and this mediation of food, family, and identity in this month's **Music by the Book** (by Tom Moon, author of **1,000 Recordings To Hear Before You Die**).

A trifecta of reading - great for conversation and for holiday gift-giving!

Good Stories-Serious Themes

The **1,000 Recordings to Hear Before You Die**

Profile also has some general questions to help you discuss recordings with other book selections and tips to start your own music group.

In the coming months, Tom will pair music and reading to other book club picks and give general insights on how to discover the joy, fun, and mystery of music. To celebrate our new exploration, **Reading Group Choices** and Workman Publishing Company will offer some complimentary copies of **1,000 Recordings to Hear Before You Die**.
Happy Listening & Discussing!

Enter for a chance to win a copy

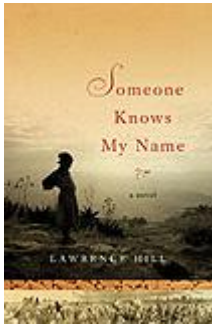
Chances to Win Discussible Books

Good Luck

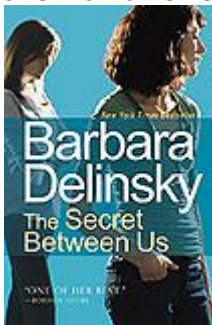
1,000 Recording To Hear Before You Die

New 1-On-Ones

This month, we'll introduce you to some spellbinding stories with serious themes that are sure to spark lively discussions.



Consider, for example, **Someone Knows My Name** by Lawrence Hill. It's the story of Aminata Diallo, who was abducted from Africa as a child, enslaved in South Carolina, and thinks only of freedom -- and of the knowledge she needs to get home. Sold to an indigo trader who recognizes her intelligence, Aminata is torn from her husband and child and thrown into the chaos of the Revolutionary War. This captivating novel of one woman's remarkable experience spans six decades and three continents and brings to life a crucial chapter in world history.



The Secret Between Us, the work of bestselling author and book group favorite Barbara Delinsky, is now in paperback. Physician Deborah Monroe and her teenage daughter Grace are driving home one night in a raging rainstorm when their car hits a man who is on foot on the road. They

share a secret concerning the accident, a lie that goes wrong. The book is about making bad choices for the right reasons. It explores the limits of responsibility and the price that we pay for denying the truth.

Speaking of secrets, meet Lucy Parker in Whitney Gaskell's **Good Luck**. She wins the lottery on the worst day of her life. After she



wins, everyone wants a piece of Lucy, and all she wants is to escape from it all. So she heads off to Palm Beach to hide out in anonymity. Little does she know, she's not the only one with a secret, and when the truth is revealed, the results will be priceless.

Enter for a chance to win a copy



May we also introduce you to Gibby McGraw in Lesley Kagen's **Land of a Hundred Wonders**? Brain damaged after a tragic car accident that took both her parents, Gibby is now NQR (Not Quite Right) -- a real challenge for a fledgling newspaper reporter, especially when she stumbles upon the dead body of the next governor of

[Lesley Kagen](#)

[Jana Richman](#)

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Kentucky. Gibby figures that solving the murder might be her best chance to prove that she can become Quite Right again. But she's also about to discover that some things are far more important than all the brains in the world -- and that miracles occur in the most unexpected moments.

Visit with Lesley Kegan in her 1-On-One!

Literary Witches Quiz

Halloween had us thinking of all manner of evil -- including witches. So we, along with ***The Guardian***, wanted to make sure you could recognize them when they appear in your reading or your reading group discussion.



Test your literary witch knowledge

Your Own Discussible Choices

Congratulations to Rosemary and **The Winlock Page Turners** for winning the random drawing for this month's Discussible Book Choice!

"It's not news for you guys but we all just loved

Water for Elephants. *There was so much in the history of circuses, animal intelligence, and treatment of and nursing home/aging issues that we talked more about that book than some of the ones that we disagree about!"*



Rosemary, The Winlock Page Turners, Winlock, WA

We enjoy hearing from book club members and sharing their choices with everyone. Please let us know about your group's discussible choices - you may win a book-related prize for every member of your reading group!

More Discussible Choices

Thanks for keeping the joy of reading alive,

