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# The Alchemist Book Club Discussion Guide

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A Monthly Guide for Hosting Your Own Reading Group : Menus & Recipes, Featured Authors, Suggested Readings, and Topical Questions

A Novel

The Alchemist

Readers Into Leaders

A Teacher's Guide to The Alchemist

Of Blood and Hope

Recipe for a Book Club

The Strange Case of the Alchemist's Daughter

A Novel

Dirty Love

The Merchant and the Alchemist's Gate

A Novel

The Reading Group

A Novel

Common-Core Aligned Teacher Materials and a Sample Chapter

Cilka's Journey

With Notes

Letting the Divine Take the Lead

The Invention of Wings

The Book Club Bible

A Net for Small Fishes

A Novel

Alchemy and Meggy Swann

Brida

By Paulo Coelho -- Sidekick

A Novel  
The Archer  
Aleph  
The Scribe of Siena  
Midnight at the Blackbird Cafe  
Book One of The Tapestry  
How to Live Fully from Divine Abundance  
The Lost Apothecary  
I Am J  
The Book That Matters Most: A Novel  
Eleven Minutes  
A Practical Guide to the Healing Magic of Cannabis, CBD, and Mushrooms  
Outrageous Openness  
The Rebel's Apothecary  
The Alchemist

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## **EMERSON HAYNES**

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**A Monthly Guide for Hosting Your Own Reading Group : Menus & Recipes, Featured Authors, Suggested Readings, and Topical Questions** Simon and Schuster  
From South America to Holland to Nepal—a new journey in the company of Paulo Coelho, bestselling author of *The Alchemist*. Drawing on the rich experience

of his own life, bestselling author Paulo Coelho takes us back in time to relive the dreams of a generation that longed for peace. In *Hippie*, he tells the story of Paulo, a young, skinny Brazilian man with a goatee and long, flowing hair, who dreams of becoming a writer, and Karla, a Dutch woman in her twenties who has been waiting to find a companion to accompany her on the fabled hippie trail to Nepal. After meeting each other in Amsterdam, she convinces Paulo to join her on a trip aboard the Magic Bus that

travels from Amsterdam to Istanbul and across Central Asia to Kathmandu. As they embark on this journey together, Paulo and Karla explore a love affair that awakens them on every level and leads to choices and decisions that will set the course for their lives thereafter.

*A Novel* CreateSpace

“Like *Outlander* with an Italian accent.”  
—Real Simple “A detailed historical novel, a multifaceted mystery, and a moving tale of improbable love.” —Publishers Weekly, starred review  
A NEW YORK POST MUST-

READ BOOK Readers of Diana Gabaldon's *Outlander* and Tracy Chevalier's *Girl with a Pearl Earring*...will be swept away by the spell of medieval Siena" (Library Journal, starred review) in this transporting love story and gripping historical mystery. Accomplished neurosurgeon Beatrice Trovato knows that her deep empathy for her patients is starting to impede her work. So when her beloved brother passes away, she welcomes the unexpected trip to the Tuscan city of Siena to resolve his estate, even as she wrestles with grief. But as she delves deeper into her brother's affairs, she discovers intrigue she never imagined—a 700-year-old conspiracy to decimate the city. As Beatrice explores the evidence further, she uncovers the journal and paintings of the fourteenth-century artist Gabriele Accorsi. But when she finds a startling image of her own face, she is suddenly transported to the year 1347. She awakens in a Siena unfamiliar to her, one that will soon be hit by the Plague. Yet when Beatrice meets Accorsi, something unexpected happens: she falls in love—not only with Gabriele, but also with the beauty and cadence of medieval life. As the Plague and the ruthless hands behind

its trajectory threaten not only her survival but also Siena's very existence, Beatrice must decide in which century she belongs. *The Scribe of Siena* is the captivating story of a brilliant woman's passionate affair with a time and a place that captures her in an impossibly romantic and dangerous trap—testing the strength of fate and the bonds of love.

**The Alchemist** Anchor Books

In 1573, the crippled, scorned, and destitute Meggy Swann goes to London, where she meets her father, an impoverished alchemist, and eventually discovers that although her legs are bent and weak, she has many other strengths.

**Readers Into Leaders** Hay House, Inc  
A short fiction anthology of work by award-winning, multicultural, women writers, *All about Skin* captures the reality of harsh media pressures, difficult family relationships, racial prejudices, and other problems that face women of color around the world.

*A Teacher's Guide to The Alchemist*

University of Wisconsin Pres

A "playful, enlightening, and creative collection" (*Spirituality and Practice*) of spiritual lessons, anecdotes, and thoughts

on the Divine's intervention in our lives, this brilliantly written and wonderfully entertaining book teaches us how to live purposefully and in line with the Force of Love. "What if the Divine is constantly igniting roadside flares to get our attention? What if there actually is a Supreme Organizing Principle with an unbridled sense of humor? And what if we each have this ardent inner suitor who's writing us love letters every day that often go unopened?" Whether we know it or not, we all experience the touch of the Divine in our lives every single day. After twenty-five years spent consulting and advising tens of thousands of people from all over the world, Tosha Silver realized that almost all of us have similar concerns: "How do I stop worrying? How can I feel safe? Why do I feel so alone?" and often, "Who am I really?" For the passionately spiritual and the bemusedly skeptical alike, she created *Outrageous Openness*. This delightful book, filled with wisdom and fresh perspectives, helps create a relaxed, trusting openness in the reader to discover answers to life's big questions as they spontaneously arise. *Outrageous Openness* opens the door to a profound

truth: By allowing the Divine to lead the way, we can finally put down the heavy load of hopes, fears, and opinions about how things should be. We learn how to be guided to take the right actions at the right time, and to enjoy the spectacular show that is our life.

Of Blood and Hope Independently Published

The latest novel from the #1 internationally best-selling author of *The Alchemist*. There is nothing wrong with anxiety. Although we cannot control God's time, it is part of the human condition to want to receive the thing we are waiting for as quickly as possible. Or to drive away whatever is causing our fear. . . . Anxiety was born in the very same moment as mankind. And since we will never be able to master it, we will have to learn to live with it—just as we have learned to live with storms. \* \* \* July 14, 1099. Jerusalem awaits the invasion of the crusaders who have surrounded the city's gates. There, inside the ancient city's walls, men and women of every age and every faith have gathered to hear the wise words of a mysterious man known only as the Copt. He has summoned the townspeople to

address their fears with truth: "Tomorrow, harmony will become discord. Joy will be replaced by grief. Peace will give way to war. . . . None of us can know what tomorrow will hold, because each day has its good and its bad moments. So, when you ask your questions, forget about the troops outside and the fear inside. Our task is not to leave a record of what happened on this date for those who will inherit the Earth; history will take care of that. Therefore, we will speak about our daily lives, about the difficulties we have had to face." The people begin with questions about defeat, struggle, and the nature of their enemies; they contemplate the will to change and the virtues of loyalty and solitude; and they ultimately turn to questions of beauty, love, wisdom, sex, elegance, and what the future holds. "What is success?" poses the Copt. "It is being able to go to bed each night with your soul at peace." \* \* \* Now, these many centuries later, the wise man's answers are a record of the human values that have endured throughout time. And, in Paulo Coelho's hands, *The Manuscript Found in Accra* reveals that who we are, what we fear, and what we hope for the

future come from the knowledge and belief that can be found within us, and not from the adversity that surrounds us. This eBook edition includes a Reading Group Guide.

**Recipe for a Book Club** W. W. Norton & Company

A collection of short stories examines the lives of suburbanites seeking solace and gratification in food, sex, work, and love. *The Strange Case of the Alchemist's Daughter* Macmillan Publishing Company  
Learn how to improve your health and wellness with the healing magic of cannabis, CBD and medicinal mushrooms. When health coach and wellness blogger Jenny Sansouci learned that her father was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer, her extensive knowledge of the latest alternative therapies was put to the test. Jenny dove into the world of cannabis and mushrooms and their medicinal properties - and she and her dad are now outspoken champions of the healing power of these plants and fungi - not only to tame the side effects of chemotherapy, but to address everyday wellness concerns. *The Rebel's Apothecary* is the result of her heartfelt and rigorous quest -- a science-

based and supportive guide that will enhance the lives of anyone living with pain, anxiety, depression, a weakened immune system, insomnia, and more. Complete with background information, dosing instructions, and everyday recipes, this is the essential handbook for harnessing the ancient healing powers of cannabis and mushrooms --safely, without confusion, fear, or an unwanted high. In addition to debunking myths and destigmatizing these powerful healing plants and fungi, *The Rebel's Apothecary* presents:

- Specific protocols and dosage guides for wellness uses (mood, sleep, immunity, focus, energy) and managing common chemotherapy side effects
- Everyday wellness routines
- Recipes for delicious, easy, health-enhancing cannabis and mushroom infused smoothies, coffee drinks, teas, elixirs, gummies, and broths - including recipes from chefs and wellness experts like Dr. Andrew Weil, Kris Carr, Seamus Mullen, Marco Canora and more
- The latest research on CBD, THC, medicinal mushrooms and psilocybin
- Tips for creating a cutting-edge home apothecary of your own

**A Novel** Simon and Schuster

THE USA TODAY BESTSELLER Heather Webber's *Midnight at the Blackbird Cafe* is a captivating blend of magical realism, heartwarming romance, and small-town Southern charm. Nestled in the mountain shadows of Alabama lies the little town of Wicklow. It is here that Anna Kate has returned to bury her beloved Granny Zee, owner of the Blackbird Café. It was supposed to be a quick trip to close the café and settle her grandmother's estate, but despite her best intentions to avoid forming ties or even getting to know her father's side of the family, Anna Kate finds herself inexplicably drawn to the quirky Southern town her mother ran away from so many years ago, and the mysterious blackbird pie everybody can't stop talking about. As the truth about her past slowly becomes clear, Anna Kate will need to decide if this lone blackbird will finally be able to take her broken wings and fly. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

*Dirty Love* Simon and Schuster

MAX MCDANIELS LIVES a quiet life in the suburbs of Chicago, until the day he stumbles upon a mysterious Celtic

tapestry. Many strange people are interested in Max and his tapestry. His discovery leads him to Rowan Academy, a secret school where great things await him. But dark things are waiting, too. When Max learns that priceless artworks and gifted children are disappearing, he finds himself in the crossfire of an ancient struggle between good and evil. To survive, he'll have to rely on a network of agents and mystics, the genius of his roommate, and the frightening power awakening within him.

*The Merchant and the Alchemist's Gate*  
Forge Books

Slasher meets satire in this darkly comic novel set in Nigeria about a woman whose younger sister has a very inconvenient habit of killing her boyfriends.

A Novel Penguin

INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER  
Named Most Anticipated of 2021 by Newsweek, Good Housekeeping, Hello! magazine, Oprah.com, Bustle, Popsugar, Betches, Sweet July, and GoodReads!  
March 2021 Indie Next Pick and #1 LibraryReads Pick "A bold, edgy, accomplished debut!" —Kate Quinn, New York Times bestselling author of *The Alice*

Network A forgotten history. A secret network of women. A legacy of poison and revenge. Welcome to *The Lost Apothecary*... Hidden in the depths of eighteenth-century London, a secret apothecary shop caters to an unusual kind of clientele. Women across the city whisper of a mysterious figure named Nella who sells well-disguised poisons to use against the oppressive men in their lives. But the apothecary's fate is jeopardized when her newest patron, a precocious twelve-year-old, makes a fatal mistake, sparking a string of consequences that echo through the centuries. Meanwhile in present-day London, aspiring historian Caroline Parcellwell spends her tenth wedding anniversary alone, running from her own demons. When she stumbles upon a clue to the unsolved apothecary murders that haunted London two hundred years ago, her life collides with the apothecary's in a stunning twist of fate—and not everyone will survive. With crackling suspense, unforgettable characters and searing insight, *The Lost Apothecary* is a subversive and intoxicating debut novel of secrets, vengeance and the remarkable

ways women can save each other despite the barrier of time.

The Reading Group W. W. Norton & Company

"The book casts a curiously sweet spell." – Entertainment Weekly Eleven Minutes tells the story of Maria, a young girl from a Brazilian village whose first innocent brushes with love leave her heartbroken. At a tender age, she becomes convinced that she will never find true love, instead believing that "love is a terrible thing that will make you suffer." A chance meeting in Rio takes her to Geneva, where she dreams of finding fame and fortune, yet ends up working as a prostitute. In Geneva, Maria's despairing view of love is put to the test when she meets a handsome young painter. In this odyssey of self-discovery, Maria must choose between pursuing a path of darkness—sexual pleasure for its own sake—or risking everything to find her own inner light and the possibility of true love.

*A Novel* Vintage

Furnishes a comprehensive guide to hosting a reading group get-together in which good eating and reading are combined, providing a reading theme for

each month, seasonal book selections and favorite authors, and a menu and recipes to go with it.

*Common-Core Aligned Teacher Materials and a Sample Chapter* HarperCollins

A Baghdad merchant, who discovers an alchemical device that can send him back in time twenty years, tries to return to an earlier time to save his dead wife.

**Cilka's Journey** Vintage

A thrilling domestic drama set against the power of the wilderness, Rea Frey's *Secrets of Our House* is a deeply-felt novel of long-held secrets and the strength of family. Desi is the mastermind behind her dream getaway house. Nestled high into the mountains of North Carolina, it is a sleek place, a luxurious place, a dark place. A place full of secrets. Secrets about the man she longs for, a man who is not her husband. Secrets about the roots of her family that must never, ever, see the light of day. When Desi and her family arrive from Chicago to spend the summer in the mountains, the seeds for the tumultuous months to follow are planted—her marriage on the rocks, not knowing which way they'll go. Her seventeen year-old daughter Jules, falling

in love for the first time with a local boy—and forging a new path that will take her to uncharted places. And Carter—a man Desi knew long ago, before she expunged him from her life for good. All hurtling toward events none of them can undo. Engaging, propulsive, and with a dramatic, heart-pounding final act, *Secrets of Our House* is a dazzling novel, richly-drawn, that shows no matter how hard outside forces may shake you, the bonds of family are stronger than the harshest winds.

**With Notes** Libraries Unlimited

Sam's desire to protect his sister leads him to magic he never imagined. The powerful arcane arts have kept Olway safe for generations, taught only to those tested and proven to have real potential at the prestigious Academy. That power has never been found on the edge of the kingdom where Sam and his sister struggle to survive. Until now. A terrible

mistake puts Sam at the mercy of a master of the arcane arts who brings Sam to the Academy to help learn what happened to the last of the Alchemists. Posing as a student, and with no magic of his own, he tries to navigate the Academy and discover the secrets of Alchemy. When he discovers a dangerous power that could destroy the Academy, Sam is tested in a way he'd never imagined. Having no magic of his own, his mind and wits might not be enough to stop a dangerous power that has turned its attention upon the Academy—and is now focused on Sam.

*Letting the Divine Take the Lead* St. Martin's Press

Another stunning novel by the author of *The Alchemist*.

*The Invention of Wings* Harper Collins  
The Reading Group follows the trials and tribulations of a group of women who meet regularly to read and discuss

books. Over the course of a year, each of these women become intertwined, both in the books they read and within each other's lives. Inspired by a shared desire for conversation, a good book and a glass of wine—Clare, Harriet, Nicole, Polly, and Susan undergo startling revelations and transformations despite their differences in background, age and respective dilemmas. What starts as a reading group gradually evolves into a forum where the women may express their views through the books they read and grow to become increasingly more open as the bonds of friendship cement. In *The Reading Group*, Noble reveals the many complicated paths in life we all face as well as the power and importance of friendship.

*The Book Club Bible* Capital Books

THE #1 BESTSELLER Introducing the explosive first Ben Hope adventure 'Non-stop action - this book delivers' STEVE BERRY

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