

# THE BOOK CLUB HUB

Thunder Bay Public Library's newsletter for book clubs.

April 2023

@TbayPL



Welcome to the Book Club Hub, a newsletter for book clubs, designed to give you ideas for your club and offer suggestions to expand your personal reading. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, let us know at [bookclub@tbpl.ca](mailto:bookclub@tbpl.ca)

## Book Club in a Bag New Releases

**The Island of Missing Trees**

by Elif Shafak

**When We Were Young and Brave**

by Hazel Gaynor

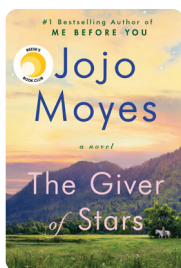
**The Giver of Stars** by Jojo Moyes

**Blood Water Paint**

by Joy McCullough

**American Dirt**

by Jeanie Cummins



## Read This Next Podcast

Looking for a new and fun way to get book recommendations? Love listening to podcasts? Then why not check out TBPL's **Read This Next** podcast! Each episode, our TBPL staff give great adult and youth book recommendations based on a different theme, such as 1920s Glitz, Glam and Murder, or Regency era novels. New episodes air biweekly on Thursdays on ShawTV and every podcast platform. You can also watch a video of the podcast Mondays on our YouTube channel @TbayPL.



## Book Review

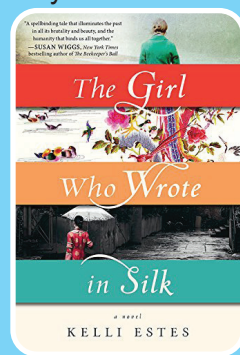
**The Girl Who Wrote in Silk** by Kelli Estes



In her debut novel, the author has captured the powerful story of two women with secrets to tell though they lived centuries apart, and what they both risked to tell the truth.

The contemporary tale features Inara Erickson, who finds an elaborately stitched silk sleeve hidden in her late aunt's family estate. Fascinated by the piece, she traces it back to Mei Lien the lone survivor of a cruel Chinese purge of Seattle in 1886, who found refuge on Orcas Island. As she pieces together Mei Lien's story, Inara is forced to make a terrible choice, bring shame to her family, or betray Mei Lien by hiding the truth.

Beginning with the prologue where Mei Lien is forced to plunge from a steamship to the icy waters, the story details the tragedies she suffered as ethnic Chinese in 1880's. When her family is forced onto a steamship reportedly headed back to China, Mei Lien and her father discover that the captain



intends to dump his cargo at sea. Despite the odds, Mei Ling survives and is rescued by Joseph McElroy, who she eventually marries. They are happy together until tragedy strikes. In the present day, Inara who was struggling with debt has inherited the family home. Plunging headlong into the mystery of the sleeve, she discovers romance with the historian who helps her, only to find a truth that could shatter her world. The book explores a forgotten chapter of history and strength of character in two very different and compelling characters.

## Book Club Notices

Looking for more members? The library frequently has enquiries from patrons looking to join a book club. Let us know if you'd like to meet a fellow book lover and we will put you in touch.

Are you interested in all things Book Club? Subscribe to our Book Club Hub newsletter at [bookclub@tbpl.ca](mailto:bookclub@tbpl.ca)

| Phone (807) 345-8275

| Email [comments@tbpl.ca](mailto:comments@tbpl.ca)

| Online [www.tbpl.ca](http://www.tbpl.ca)



**Thunder Bay  
Public Library**

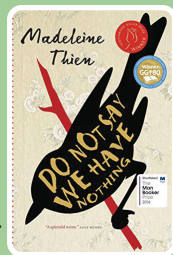
**"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies...the man who never reads lives only one." - George R.R. Martin**

## Party Pairings - The Perfect Book/Recipe/Beverage

### THE BOOK

**Do Not Say We Have Nothing** by Madeleine Thien

The novel centers around a two young women, Marie and Ai-Ming whose roots are caught up in the cultural turmoil in China, while navigating life in modern day Vancouver. Ranging from quiet personal drama to sweeping actions on the world stage, it is the story of how we are shaped by the world around us.



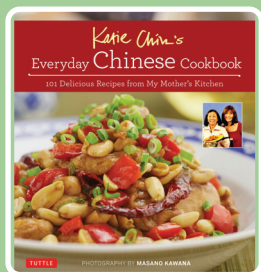
### THE RECIPE

**Crab Wontons** (Rangoon)

Recipe taken from: Katie Chin's Everyday Chinese Cookbook, 101 Delicious Recipes from My Mother's Kitchen by Katie Chin

**PREP TIME:** 15 min | **COOKING TIME:** 5 min | **SERVES:** 6-8

6 oz crabmeat (real or imitation) - flaked  
2 8 oz packages cream cheese, softened  
1/2 tsp salt  
1/4 tsp garlic powder  
20 wonton wrappers (thawed)  
1 egg (slightly beaten)  
Oil for frying  
Sweet and Sour sauce for dipping



- 1) In medium bowl, mix crabmeat, cream cheese, salt and garlic powder till well combined.
- 2) Lay wontons one at a time on clean work surface (cover others to keep pliable). Brush edges with beaten egg, then place heaping teaspoon of mixture in center. Fold together and pinch edges to form triangle. Repeat with remaining wrappers.
- 3) In large skillet or wok, heat two to three inches of oil to 350°F Fry 8 to 10 wontons at time, turning 2 to 3 times until golden brown (about 2 minutes). Drain on sheet pan lined with paper towels. Serve with sweet & sour sauce.

### THE BEVERAGE

**Heavenly Days** (serves 1)

Taken from: 1001 Cocktails: A Cocktail for Every Occasion and Mood. Forward by Robbie Bargh

2 measures Hazelnut syrup  
2 measures Lemon juice  
1 tsp Grenadine  
Sparkling water  
Lemon or starfruit as a garnish

Shake ingredients vigorously over ice until well frosted. Half fill a tumbler with cracked ice and strain the cocktail over them. Fill with sparkling water. Stir gently and dress with garnish.

## A Question for You

Every issue will include a fun poll to help the library discover more about our users, tailor future purchases and help book clubs get to know each other. Send your answers to [bookclub@tbpl.ca](mailto:bookclub@tbpl.ca)

**This month's poll:** Where does your book club meet?

1. At the library
2. At a member's house
3. At a restaurant
4. At work
5. Other \_\_\_\_\_



**Answer to last issue's poll:**

Historical Fiction was voted favourite genre!



## NoveList: Book Recommendations

If you're looking for reading recommendations, look no further than NoveList. This amazing database is available to all library card holders. Simply head to [www.tbpl.ca/browse](http://www.tbpl.ca/browse) and scroll down to find a link to the NoveList website, as well as videos on how to use this great resource! You'll need your library card and PIN number. Search any book, show, genre or other literary component to receive expert advice on what you may enjoy next!



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