

LESSONS

Bonnie Garmus	
(AUTHOR)	
Lessons In Chemistry	
(BOOK TITLE)	
DATE	TIME
27 SEP 2022	8:00PM ET

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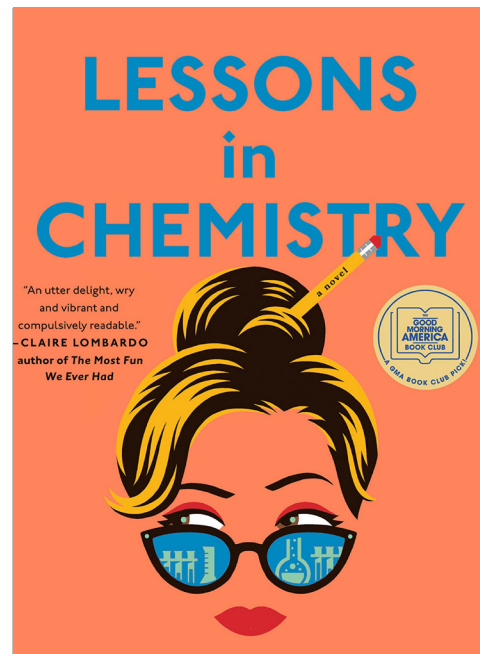
Book
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EST. 2019
HOLLY FURTICK
BOOK CLUB



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BOOK CLUB



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

- BonnieGarmus.com
- Copywriter and creative director who has worked widely in the fields of technology, medicine, and education
- This is her debut novel
- She's an open-water swimmer, a rower, and mother to two daughters
- Born in California and most recently from Seattle, she currently lives in London with her husband and her dog, 99

ABOUT THE BOOK

• Elizabeth Zott is a female chemist in the late 50s early 60s. She is fired from her job as a chemist after she becomes pregnant. The book navigates heavy subjects like grief, sexism, and sexual harassment in the workplace. These heavy topics, when coupled with themes like love, friendship, and new beginnings, give us a beautiful story of how people can grow and survive even in the most heartbreaking circumstances.

SETTING/LOCATION

- Commons, California (mythical)
- Late 50's/early 60's

THEMES

- Love
- Friendship
- Sexism
- Grief

CHARACTERS

- Calvin Evans
- Elizabeth Zott
- Madeline “Mad” Zott
- 6:30 - Bomb-sniffing dog that was abandoned and finds Elizabeth
- Amanda Pine - Ate Mad’s lunch
- Walter Pine - Amanda’s dad, TV producer of Supper at Six
- Ms. Frask - Worked at Hastings and then worked for Reverend Wakley
- Reverend Wakley - Pin pal with Calvins, met Mad in the park, and formed an unlikely friendship
- Harriot Sloane - Neighbor
- Bishop from All Saints
- Dr. Boryweitz - idiot, presented Elizabeth’s work as his own
- Dr. Mason - Rowing buddy of Calvin and Elizabeth. Delivers Calvin and Elizabeth’s baby. Encourages Elizabeth to keep rowing.
- Dr. Donatti - Calvin’s boss that stole Elizabeth’s work
- Avery Parker - Calvin’s real mom
- Phil Levensmal - Executive producer and station manager. Has a massive heart attack when tries to attack Elizabeth.
- Mrs. Fillis - is “just a housewife” that returns to school to become a doctor
- Franklin Roth - the journalist at the funeral, asked to write the Time article that did not reflect his true views. Frask eventually helped get it published in Vogue.

MEMORABLE SCENES

- Page 11 - Calvin and Elizabeth meet - she steals his beaker
- Page 17 - Elizabeth stabs Dr. Meyer. She loses her spot in the program
- Page 22 - Elizabeth helps Calvin at the movies
- Page 31 - Calvin and Elizabeth’s first kiss. She kissed him.
- Page 44 - Calvin trying to convince Elizabeth to move in
- Page 51 - Calvin proposes to Elizabeth, and she says no
- Page 56 - Elizabeth finding 6:30 or 6:30 finding Elizabeth
- Page 66 - Calvin and Elizabeth rowing
- Page 66 - Cockswain validates Elizabeth continuing to row
- Page 82 - The Parker Foundation donates books to the boys home where Calvin is located.
- Page 93 & 94 - Calvin dies - impacts everyone, including 6:30
- Page 103 - Elizabeth finds out she is pregnant
- Page 118 - Elizabeth remodeling the kitchen
- Page 121 - Elizabeth using the erg while she’s pregnant
- Page 136 - Dr. Mason delivers Calvin and Elizabeth’s baby
- Page 138 - Elizabeth meets Harriot and Harriot helps with Mad

Harriot and Mad sneak into the studio to watch Elizabeth's show

- Page 199 - Walter introduces the show to Elizabeth
- Page 246 - Wakely meets Mad in the library
- Page 268 - Elizabeth's mushroom show
- Page 270 & 275 - Phil Levensmal has a massive heart attack when tries to attack Elizabeth. She had a knife with her at the time what part the knife plays in the heart attack is unclear.
- Page 321 - Initial Life magazine interview
- Page 367 - Avery Parker tells Elizabeth the whole story
- Page 366 - Roth's real article is published in Vogue

THINGS I LOVED ABOUT THIS BOOK

- I read this book with the biggest smile on my face
- I rooted for Elizabeth
- I was shocked by 6:30
- I wanted a Harriet in my life
- I didn't want it to end