

Sara Nisha Adams

(AUTHOR)

The Reading List

(BOOK TITLE)

DATE	TIME
12 JULY 2022	8:00PM ET

Book Club

EST. 2019

HOLLY FURTICK
BOOK CLUB

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LIST

Book Club

HOLLY FURTICK
BOOK CLUB

EST. 2019



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

- Sara is a writer and editor. She lives in London and was born in Hertfordshire, to Indian and English parents. Her debut novel *The Reading List* is partly inspired by her grandfather, who lived in Wembley and immediately found a connection with his granddaughter through books.
- Sara said that she was an avid reader and library goer as a child. That she was shy but could always talk about books. Originally this book had many lists but she cut it down to keep it simple. She said that this list came from her stream of consciousness— of books from being a teenager.

BOOK LIST

- *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- *Rebecca*
- *The Kite Runner*
- *Life of Pi*
- *Pride and Prejudice*
- *Little Women*
- *Beloved*
- *A Suitable Boy*

The Time Traveler's Wife (first book Mukesh read) Sara said she originally included it in the list, but needed something to start with

ABOUT THE BOOK

- It's a story about how a list of library books helps forge an unlikely friendship between two very different people and how a grandfather is able to use books to finally connect with his granddaughter. The shared books create a connection

between two lonely souls, as fiction helps them escape their grief and everyday troubles and find joy again.

SETTING/LOCATION

- Wembley— London
- Harrow Road Library

CHARACTERS

Mukesh Patel Family

- Mukesh (main character- grandfather)
- Naina (deceased- Mukesh Wife)
- Rohina Langton (responsible daughter)
- Deepali Langton (youngest daughter)
- Vritti (Mukesh middle daughter)
- Priya (Mukesh granddaughter)

Aleisha Family

- Aleisha (main character- college student)
- Aiden (Aleisha's brother)
- Leilah (Aleisha's mom)
- Dean (Aleisha's dad)

Library People

- Thermos Flask Dev (Aleisha's boss)
- Kyle (Aleisha's coworker)
- Lucy (volunteer)
- Chris (crime thriller guy)

Other

- Nilakshimasi “Nilaskshi” (Mukesh's friend)
- Zac (boyfriend)

MEMORABLE SCENES

Marked in book as well.

- When Mukesh couldn't open the door at the library (pg 22)
- Aleisha meeting Mukesh in the library for the first time (pg 23)
- When Aleisha found the list (pg 26)
- Lamb stew recipe (pg 41)
- Aleisha spots Zac on the train for the first time (pg 65)
- Aleisha reading with her mother for the first time (pg 73)
- Mukesh getting a call about the book Aleisha reserved for him (pg 78)

- Running event— Mukesh reconnects with Nilakshi (pg 130)
- Aleisha meets Zac (pg 142)
- Nilakshi teaches Mukesh to cook Brinjal Bhaji (pg 164)
- Mukesh takes Pria out and buys her *To Kill a Mockingbird* and Rebecca (pg 181)
- When Mukesh’s daughter shows up and is shocked to see Nilakshi at his home (pg 210)
- When Mukesh’s daughters confronted him at the house (pg 249)
- Aleisha and Zac “date” eating at Mukesh house (pg 263)
- Mukesh making Dosa (family favorite meal) for his daughters (pg 280)
- Aleisha not being able to reach Aidens and finding out about his suicide (pg 285)
- When Mukesh brought Aleisha *The Time Traveler’s Wife* (pg 295)
- Aleisha seeing her brother’s stack of books (pg 340)
- The community event at the library (pg 349)
- Pria getting her library card (pg 349)
- The letter from Naina placed in *A Suitable Boy* (pg 364)
- The lists all coming together and we find out it was from Naina (pg 365)

THINGS I LOVED ABOUT THIS BOOK

- How Mukesh borrowed what he needed from the book characters he was reading about.

QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS

- What would be on your list???