

Mike Gayle

(AUTHOR)

All The Lonely People

(BOOK TITLE)

DATE

TIME

14 SEPT 2021

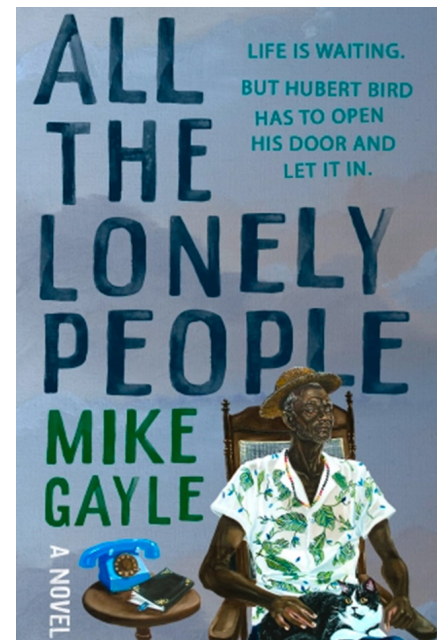
8:00PM ET

HOLLY FURTICK

Book Club!

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

- Mike Gayle was born and raised in Birmingham. After graduating from Salford University with a degree in Sociology Mike moved to London with ambitions of becoming a music journalist. But ended up having a career as an advice columnist in a teen magazine.
- His books have been translated into over thirty languages.
- Mike now lives in Birmingham with his wife, kids, two dogs and a rabbit.

ABOUT THE BOOK

- This book is about the past and present life of Hubert Bird, a Jamaican immigrant living in Bromley. Hubert moved to England as a young adult but now, over 60 and a widow, Hubert is rediscovering how to live in a lonely world.

SETTING:

- Bromley (south east London, England)

THEMES

- Love
- Friendship
- Race/Predjudice
- Loneliness
- Immigrants
- Bi-racial marriage

MAIN CHARACTERS

- Hubert Bird
- Ashleigh Jones
 - Daughter Layla
- Joyce Pierce (Huberts Wife)

SUPPORTING CHARACTERS

- Rose Huberts daughter)
- Gus (Huberts best friend)
- His Fake Friends
 - Dotty, Dennis & Harvey
- The Committee
 - Emils
 - Jan
 - Tony
 - Maude
 - Fiona

THINGS I LOVE ABOUT THIS BOOK

- Loneliness knows no age
 - Elderly
 - Single parent
 - Breakup
 - immigrant

QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS

- Favorite character besides Hubert?
- Favorite scene?
- Did you like the flip when we learned that Rose was dead?
- Did you like the ending?
- I loved the realness of Huberts life. There was sorrow and joy mixed together.
- Reality:
 - Hubert's son David's addiction and homelessness
 - Joyce's illness
 - Joyce's family disowning her but the niece reconciling at the end
 - Getting robbed
- Face to face connection

MEMORABLE SCENES

Marked in book as well.

- Meeting Ashleigh for the first time.
- Hubert telling his mother he was leaving Jamaica for England.
- The racial comments made to/about Hubert while working at Hamiltons.
- Rose calling to tell Hubert she was coming home to visit.
- Asking out Joyce & then Joyce asking him out days later.
- Hubert watching Layla for Ashleigh.
- Joyce telling Hubert she was pregnant.
- Joyce family disowning her.
- Hubert going to meet Joyce's sister.
- Hubert inviting Emils in for a drink.
- Joyce's mom's funeral.
- Visiting Gus for the first time.
- The start of the Campaign to End Loneliness in Bromley
- Hubert's affair.
- Dropping Rose at college
- Learning about what happened to David
- Seeing David in the streets
- Hubert going on TV and meeting with the counselor
- Taking Gus to McDonalds
- Joyce passing
- Hubert's house getting broken in to
- Hubert telling Ashleigh about Rose
- Bringing David off the street
- Gus visiting Hubert
- The event to end loneliness / speech
- Meeting Joyce niece
- The final dinner in Hubert's honor