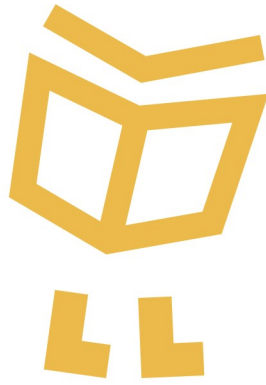


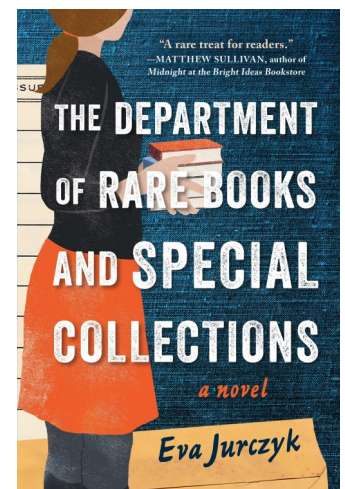
BOOK CLUB in a bag



The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections Eva Jurczyk

Discussion Questions

1. What was your first impression of Liesl? Did your opinion change throughout the book?
2. Everyone except Liesl is extremely reluctant to involve the police. What do they fear? What are the consequences of that fear?
3. Liesl often has to swallow her feelings to get along with her colleagues and family. Have you ever been in a situation where you felt you couldn't be honest about your feelings? How does Liesl's isolation affect her search for the Plantin?
4. The characters at the library spend their days surrounded by priceless books. Was there a title in the library's collection that especially moved you? Which of the books would you have stolen to keep for yourself?
5. The Peshawar facsimile at the book fair makes Liesl uncomfortable. Do you think reproductions of rare books or art cheapen the original? What do you see as the difference between a facsimile and a forgery?
6. Liesl mentions having "never had more authority and less control in my life." What's the difference between authority and control? Have you ever been in a similar position?
7. Vivek ends the book carrying a lot of guilt for his inability to help Miriam. What do you think happens to Vivek at the end of the book?
8. Of Detective Yuan's list of non-commercial motivations for theft – revenge, thrill, passion – which did you think was most likely? Who did that make you suspect?
9. When the thief was revealed, what were your thoughts? How well do we know the people around us? Do we know more or less once they leave us for good?
10. Were you satisfied with the ending? What conclusion would you have preferred instead?



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About the Author

Eva Jurczyk is a writer and librarian living in Toronto. *The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections* is her first book.

Via the author's website (<https://www.evajurczyk.com/>)

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