

BOOK CLUB in a bag

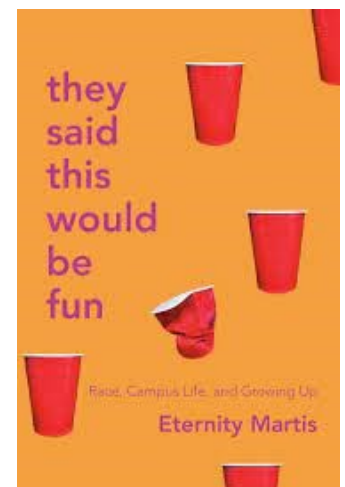


They Said This Would Be Fun

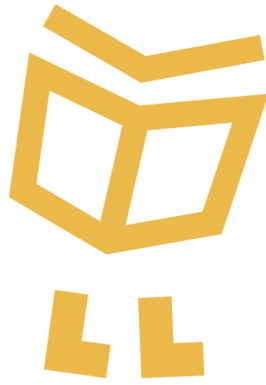
Eternity Martis

Discussion Questions

1. Eternity writes about her experience as a undergrad student living in London, Ont. Did anything about her description of London surprised you? Did anything match or was in direct contrast with your personal experience?
2. How does Eternity's experience at university compare to your experiences at school, post-secondary or not? What do you think explains the differences (or similarities)?
3. At Halloween in her first year, Eternity faced racist taunts and saw a trio of fellow students in blackface. She wrote that the experience shattered her illusion of safety, and "a feeling of deep discomfort made its permanent home inside [her]." Why do think she felt that way?
4. Have you ever witnessed such acts of aggression and racism towards people in your life or strangers? How did that make you feel? How did you react?
5. This memoir also includes "toolkits" for racialized students that offer advice on dealing with everything from being the token in class, at the gym and in your friend group. Could you have used this advice as a student? If not, does that change how you remember your school days?
6. Who gets to have a carefree university experience? What does carefree even mean?
7. Eternity writes about being accepted as South Asian, but not readily seen by her family as Black. How does Eternity's writing make us reconsider identity and how we label people?



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This book may be available for download as an eBook and an eAudiobook.

For more information, please visit lpl.overdrive.com or call 519-661-4600.

About the Author

Eternity Martis is an award-winning Toronto-based journalist. She was a 2017 National Magazine Awards finalist for Best New Writer and the 2018 winner of the Canadian Online Publishing Awards for Best Investigative Article. Her work has appeared in *Vice*, *Huffington Post*, *The Walrus*, *CBC*, *Hazlitt*, *The Fader*, *Salon*, and on academic syllabuses around the world. Her work on race and language has influenced media style guide changes across the country. She is the course developer and instructor of Reporting On Race: The Black Community in the Media at Toronto Metropolitan University, the first of its kind in Canada, and the 2021 Journalist-in-Residence at the University of British Columbia. She earned an honours BA and a Certificate in Writing from Western University and an MJ from Toronto Metropolitan University. She is also a winner of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women by Women's Executive Network. Her debut memoir, *They Said This Would Be Fun*, is a *Toronto Star*, *Globe and Mail* and *Vancouver Sun* bestseller. It's featured on anticipated and essential book lists including *Now*, *the Globe and Mail*, *BlogTO*, *CBC*, *Chatelaine* and more. CBC has named Eternity one of "Six Canadian writers of Black heritage to watch in 2020" and the book as one of "20 moving Canadian memoirs to read right now." PopSugar named it one of "5 Books About Race on College Campuses Every Student Should Read" and it is one of Chapters/Indigo's "Best Books of 2020." The audiobook has been named "Best Audiobooks Of 2020" by Apple and Audible. Recently, it became a finalist for the International Book Awards in the categories of Autobiography/Memoir and Social Change.

Via Penguin Random House Canada (<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.ca/authors/2194574/eternity-martis>)

