

All Good People Here DISCUSSION GUIDE Book Club Collection (630) 232-0780 x366

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AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



Ashley is always doing something. From writing her first novel, to hosting and executive producing numerous podcasts across the audiochuck network (with her namesake pup by her side)

To help bring a sense of closure to victims and their families Ashley started her non-profit Season of Justice. The goal is to provide financial grants to law enforcement agencies, victims and their families to help solve cold cases.

Ashley is renowned for her ability to craft rich, meaningful stories. Now she's pulling fans from

podcasts to paper, with her debut novel, All Good People Here. Ashley builds a world of intrigue and suspense where nothing is exactly what it seems.

Ashley launched audiochuck in December 2017 and has never looked back. As Chief Creative Officer, Ashley is creating, hosting, and producing shows that generate millions of downloads per week.

Author's Website.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. How does the small-town setting of Wakarusa contribute to the atmosphere of the story? How does this setting impact the characters' actions and decisions?
- 2. In 1994, Krissy Jacobs faced the disappearance of her daughter January. How does the portrayal of the town's reaction to January's disappearance reflect the community dynamics in Wakarusa?
- 3. Explore the impact of Margot's return to Wakarusa in 2019. How does the town's renewed interest in the cold case affect her personally and professionally?

- 4. Margot experiences survivor's guilt over January's death. How does this guilt drive her actions and decisions throughout the novel?
- 5. Investigate the consequences of Margot's obsession with January's case, leading to her job loss. How does this reflect the societal pressures and expectations placed on individuals in small communities?
- 6. As Margot delves into the investigation, she encounters bias against Krissy Jacobs. Discuss how societal perceptions of mothers, especially in the context of crime, influence the narrative.
- 7. Krissy Jacobs conceals a dark secret about January's death. How does her struggle with mourning, guilt, and the weight of societal judgment shape her character?
- 8. Examine the dynamics between Krissy, Jace, and Billy Jacobs. How do the family dynamics contribute to the unfolding tragedy? What role does societal judgment play in their downfall?
- 9. Explore Jace's recollections of January and the presence of Elephant Wallace in their childhood. How do these memories shape the perception of Jace as a character?
- 10. Margot faces challenges in her pursuit of justice, from ominous messages to a mysterious figure following her. How do these elements contribute to the suspense and tension in the narrative?
- 11. Investigate the role of Elliott Wallace in the unfolding mystery. How does Margot's discovery of evidence in his storage unit contribute to the resolution of the case?
- 12. Margot's fears turn towards her uncle Luke as a potential suspect. How does the revelation about Luke's possible involvement in the crimes impact the overall narrative?
- 13. Delve into the climax where Margot and Jodie uncover evidence in Elliott Wallace's storage unit. How does this moment build suspense? How does it contribute to the resolution of the story?
- 14. Reflect on the shocking revelation in the climax where Billy confesses to the murders. How does this twist alter the reader's perception of the characters and events leading up to this point?
- 15. In the epilogue, Billy's backstory is revealed. Discuss the impact of this revelation on the overall narrative, and how does it shape the reader's understanding of the characters and events in the novel?

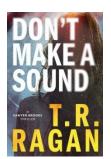
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BOOK REVIEWS

Publisher's Weekly

Flowers, the host of the true crime podcast Crime Junkie, debuts with a twisty psychological thriller coauthored with Kiester (The Truth About Ben and June). Twenty-five years after the unsolved murder of Margot Davies's childhood best friend, January Jacobs (forever frozen in public memory--shades of JonBenét Ramsey--as that tiny dancer looking disturbingly older than six in her skimpy competition costume), Margot remains haunted by the case, as well as the way pious finger-pointing in her hometown of Wakarusa, Ind., helped shatter her surviving family. So when duty drags Margot, now a crime reporter for an Indianapolis newspaper, back to Wakarusa to care for the ailing uncle who raised her, she hopes this might be her chance to crack the case--especially once, less than a day after her arrival, a five-year-old vanishes in a neighboring town. The reporter swiftly discovers that the townsfolk she once thought she knew may have been concealing far more complex and problematic passions than apparent back then to a child such as herself. This intricate, intriguing puzzler should surprise even those readers certain they know where the plot's heading. Flowers is off to a promising start. Agent: Meredith Miller, UTA. (Aug.)

READALIKES



The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros

Sawyer Brooks, a 29-year-old newly promoted crime reporter for a Sacramento, Calif., newspaper, suffered a traumatic experience as a child. One night, while Sawyer's parents were traveling on business, her two older sisters left the young teen alone in their house in River Rock. Just after their departure, the uncle who usually looked after the sisters while their parents were away showed up at the house and rented her to four men who sexually abused her. Ever since, Sawyer has had trouble trusting people, and she flinches when anyone touches her. Nevertheless, her hunger for justice leads her back to River Rock to investigate a teenage girl's murder that reminds her of two unsolved killings from her youth. She's horrified to discover that child molesters are lurking almost everywhere in River Rock.



The Dragons, The Giant, the Women: A Memoir by Wayetu Moore

"Investigative journalist Laura Chambers is back in her tiny hometown of Hillsborough, North Carolina, the one place she swore never to return. Fired from the Boston Globe, her career in shambles, she reluctantly takes a job with the local paper. The work is simple, unimportant, and worst of all, boring--at least until a missing girl turns up dead, the body impeccably clean, dressed to be the picture of innocence. Years earlier, ten-year-old Patty Finch left home and never made it back. But for the people of Hillsborough, Patty was just the beginning. Child after child disappeared, a reign of terror the town desperately wants to forget. Now that terror has returned to seize another girl. And another. And another. This is the story Laura's been waiting for--her one last chance to get back onto the front page. She dives deeper into a case that runs colder by the second, only to discover the truth may be far closer to home than she could have ever imagined."



Another Brooklyn by Jacqueline Woodson

Nicolette Farrell left Cooley Ridge, North Carolina, 10 years ago in the wake of her best friend Corinne's disappearance. Now a school counselor in Philadelphia and engaged to a successful attorney, Nic reluctantly returns to Cooley Ridge to handle her father's affairs after a stroke sends him to a nursing home. With Nic's arrival, the fallout surrounding Corinne's disappearance resurfaces as if no time has passed, confronting her with unresolved feelings about Corinne, a dangerous attraction to her first love, and a growing cloud of suspicion surrounding her family's role in Corinne's disappearance. Then Annaleise Carter, who provided the alibi for Nic and her friends the night Corinne disappeared, goes missing, and Nic scrambles to understand the clues she's unearthed implicating her loved ones.