



RTC- LIBRARY E-NEWSLETTER



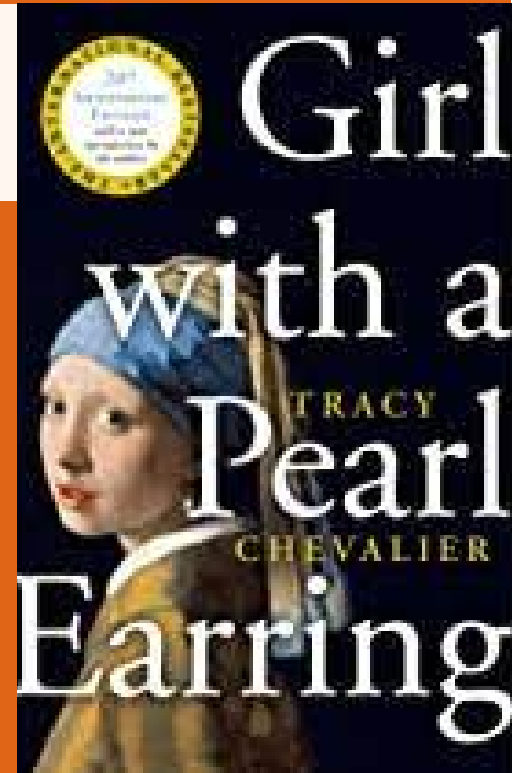
WELCOME TO THE RTC- LIBRARY NEWSLETTER - JULY 2023



GIRL WITH A PEARL EARRING

A mesmerizing novel set in the 17th century in Holland. The story is narrated by Griet, a young girl who becomes a maid in the household of famous painter Johannes Vermeer. Griet is a main character in the story, she goes as a maid in a rich family after a tragic incident occurs with her father. Therefore, in order to earn for her family she leaves her home at an early age.

As Griet learns more about Vermeer's art who is her master, she starts developing a fascination for him and becomes his assistant in his studio by helping him make and get colours for his painting. Her relationship with Vermeer becomes increasingly complicated as she becomes the subject of one of his most famous paintings, "Girl with a Pearl Earring."



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Art, creativity, passion, and forbidden love are few themes I could bring out after having read the book. I believe it teaches a lot of values to the reader.

I have enjoyed Chevalier's, the author of this novel's writing style as it is vivid and immersing, it has the ability to transport its reader to the bustling streets of Delft and the intimate setting of Vermeer's studio. The characters are well-developed and complex, and the portrayal of the art world in 17th century Holland feels authentic and well-researched.

This line "In the presence of Vermeer, I was both seen and unseen, a subject and an observer, a part of his world and yet forever separate." is my favorite line from the book as it describes the emotions Griet is having, ever since she started spending time with Vermeer and knowing the fact that she cannot have him.

To conclude "Girl with a Pearl Earring" is a beautifully written and emotionally resonant novel that explores the power of art and the complexities of human relationships. It is a must-read for anyone who enjoys historical fiction and wants to experience the beauty of Vermeer's paintings in a new light.

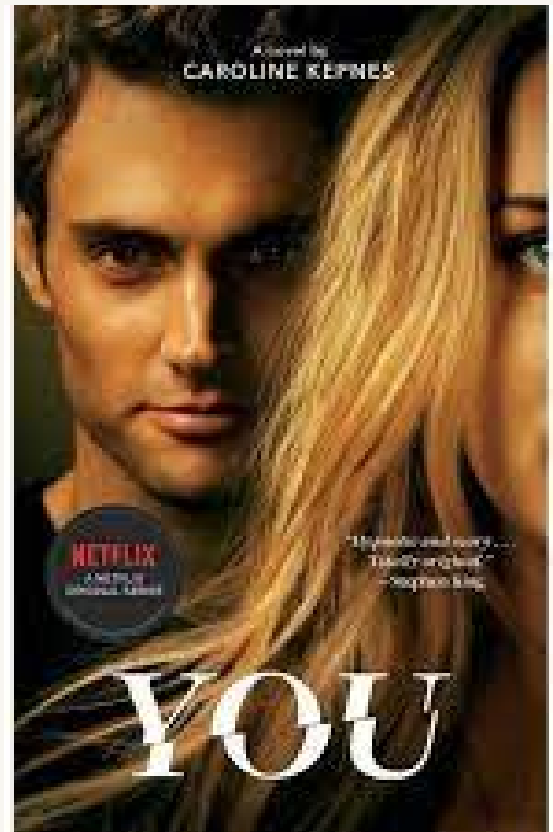
"YOU" BY CAROLINE KEPNES

The psychological suspense novel "You" by Caroline Kepnes explores the murky depths of the human mind to reveal a terrifying tale of obsession and the hazy line between love and control. Kepnes creates a captivating and alarming story with a distinct narrative perspective and a fascinating portrayal of damaged characters that make readers wonder about their own notions of morality and the effects of untamed desires and emotions.

The novel introduces us to Joe Goldberg, a presumably ordinary bookstore manager who develops feelings for a customer by the name of Guinevere Beck, or just Beck. As Joe meticulously creates his own reality to control Beck's life, what starts off as an uncanny encounter rapidly turns into an obsession. By using social media and digital surveillance, Joe invades every part of Beck's life and distorts the clear lines between love, possession, and manipulation.

Kepnes uses a first-person narrative to let readers experience the story from Joe's unsettling viewpoint. With this unique and unsettling narrative decision, Joe immerses readers in his deranged mind as he explains his actions and justifies his more invasive behavior. With the use of charm, humor, and bizarre reasoning, Kepnes expertly captures Joe's inner dialogue, creating a tense dynamic that keeps readers on the edge throughout the whole book.

Kepnes' ability to investigate the dark side of human nature while simultaneously providing biting social critique distinguishes "You" from other psychological thrillers. The narrative explores our culture's fixation on technology, social media, and the hazy boundaries of privacy.



Additionally, "You" has great character development. Joe Goldberg is a mystery; he is a complicated and gravely flawed character who could evoke empathy even as his acts become more and more unsettling. The traumas and fears that underlie Joe's distorted view of love are revealed as Kepnes skillfully exposes the layers of his personality. Like other complex characters, Beck is both manipulative and vulnerable, which causes readers to have mixed feelings about her.

Although "You" is surely an intriguing book to read, it's crucial to be aware that it contains graphic material, such as violent and sexual scenes. These components may not be appropriate for all readers, but they help to heighten the dark mood and add to the story's overall effect.

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