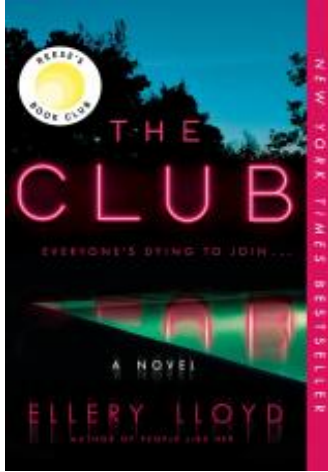


The Club

by Ellery Lloyd



About the Book

From the author of PEOPLE LIKE HER comes a smart and sinister murder mystery set in the secretive world of exclusive celebrity clubs.

Everyone's Dying to Join...

The Home Group is a glamorous collection of celebrity members' clubs dotted across the globe, where the rich and famous can party hard and then crash out in its five-star suites, far from the prying eyes of fans and the media.

The most spectacular of all is Island Home --- a closely guarded, ultraluxurious resort just off the English coast --- and its three-day launch party is easily the most coveted A-list invite of the decade.

But behind the scenes, tensions are at a breaking point: the ambitious and expensive project has pushed the Home Group's CEO and his long-suffering team to their absolute limits. All of them have something to hide --- and that's before the beautiful people with their own ugly secrets even set foot on the island.

As tempers fray and behavior worsens, as things get more sinister by the hour and the body count piles up, some of Island Home's members will begin to wish they'd never made the guest list.

Because at *this* club, if your name's on the list, you're not getting out.

Discussion Guide

1. What drives Ned Groom? What are his strongest qualities? What does he value most? How do you think that's at odds with the values of the guests at Home?
2. Adam Groom sees himself as being his brother's equal. Do you think that's true? How do you think the two brothers differ? Why does Adam want to leave the company? Do you think Ned loves Adam?
3. Consider the name of the resort company, Home. What is home? In what ways do the Home resorts provide these qualities or not? In what ways, intentionally or not, might the name be ironic?
4. To know the "measure" of any Home member, Nikki watches how they speak to staff. What's revealed in such interactions?
5. What was Nikki's situation when she first began working for Home Group in coat check? What made her vulnerable to the manipulations and desires of a man like Ron Cox?
6. Annie realizes that she became boastful in an interview because it was the first time she could remember that someone "listened to her." What does she mean by this? How does her "pathological need to be noticed" help or hurt her in her role as Home Group head of membership?
7. Ned suggests that "we all have versions of ourselves we can bear to look at, versions we prepare for the world's consumption." What might this mean? How is each of the five main characters presenting a version of themselves to the outside world?
8. Nikki admits that in some ways the Home Group is like a family. What qualities might she have been thinking of? Positive or negative, in what other ways might the Home Group and its members behave like a family?
9. Why is it that, thinking Jackson Crane to be dead, Jess "did not feel triumph" or "any kind of happiness, or...resolution"? Why do you think her response is so complicated? What did she hope to gain with Jackson's death? Do you think she has gained or lost with his death?
10. What allows the rich and powerful to get away with potentially criminal behavior? Think about Nikki and Jess' stories. How were the people who harmed them shielded from consequences? How were others complicit?

Author Bio

Ellery Lloyd is the pseudonym for the London-based husband-and-wife writing team of Collette Lyons and Paul Vlitos. Collette is a journalist and editor, the former content director of *Elle* (UK), and editorial director at Soho House. She has written for the *Guardian*, the *Telegraph* and the *Sunday Times*. Paul is the author of two previous novels, *WELCOME TO THE WORKING WEEK* and *EVERY DAY IS LIKE SUNDAY*. He is a Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Greenwich. They are the authors of *PEOPLE LIKE HER*, *THE CLUB* and *THE FINAL ACT OF JULIETTE WILLOUGHBY*.

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