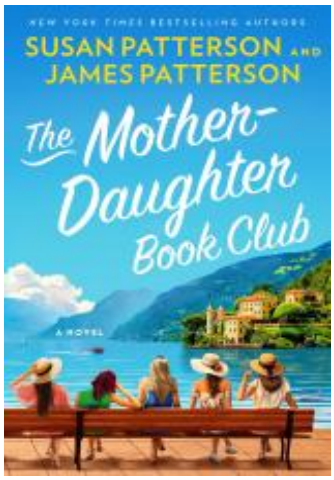
The Mother-Daughter Book Club

by Susan and James Patterson



About the Book

THE MOTHER-DAUGHTER BOOK CLUB is Susan and James Patterson's new novel, the follow-up to THINGS I WISH I TOLD MY MOTHER --- the *New York Times* bestselling, book club favorite praised novel.

Between their busy lives and their far-flung residences, the Mother-Daughter Book Club --- four longtime college friends and their five daughters --- more often discuss the books on their nightstands via 2am texts than in-person meetings. And maybe it?s just as well, after what happened at their last get-together.

So it?s an emotional reunion when they finally gather again, this time on the spectacular shores of Italy?s Lake Como. Sightseeing excursions, reminiscing fueled by ?Como-politans,? and a hint of vacation romance all build toward the book club?s trademark ?Night of Secrets.?

These friends, and sometime rivals, are close readers --- of novels, memoirs, and each other. But as the years and the distance cast shadows and doubt, confidences and sympathies turn into surprising revelations.

Discussion Guide

1. Are you a member of a book club? If so, how much time at each meeting do you spend talking about books? How much time do members spend talking about their lives? If you aren?t a book club member, why not?

2. Book clubs typically meet on a regular basis. In THE MOTHER-DAUGHTER BOOK CLUB, the group is meeting for the first time after a three-year hiatus. The time gap is driven by a shocking event that affects all the members. How does the shared experience change the friendship the women have built, collectively and as individuals?

3. Mariella diligently plans activities for the group to reconnect. How do these events, including their unforeseen

complications, bring the group closer together? Have you ever had a plan go awry? What did you learn from the experience?

4. Consider the characters in the story, the mothers and the daughters. What are the similarities in these relationships? What are the differences? Which mother-daughter pair is your favorite?

5. Grace, one of the more reserved members of the club, takes a risk in Lake Como that changes her life. Have you ever taken a major life risk? Did it pay off?

6. Almost every meeting of the Mother-Daughter Book Club culminates in the Night of Secrets. In Italy, a secret is revealed that shakes the group. Were the characters right to keep this secret? Have you ever kept a big secret from a loved one? Was it eventually revealed? What was the result?

7. Though the characters introduced in these pages gather to discuss books, like many book clubs they also share deep bonds over food! Which of the Mother-Daughter Book Club recipes is your favorite? If asked to share a family recipe, do you have one you would choose?

8. THE MOTHER-DAUGHTER BOOK CLUB mentions over 70 books and authors. Consider your personal reading list versus that of your book club. Is there much overlap? If you first learned about a book in these pages, how soon can you start reading?

Author Bio

Susan Solie Patterson has a Bachelor of Science/Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she was an All-American swimmer. She is the author of BIG WORDS FOR LITTLE GENIUSES, a *New York Times* bestseller.

James Patterson is the world?s best-selling author, best known for his many enduring fictional characters and series, including Alex Cross, the *Women?s Murder Club*, Michael Bennett, *Maximum Ride*, *Middle School*, *I Funny*, and Jacky Ha-Ha. Patterson?s writing career is characterized by a single mission: to prove to everyone, from children to adults, that there is no such thing as a person who ?doesn?t like to read,? only people who haven?t found the right book. He?s given over a million books to schoolkids and over 40 million dollars to support education, and endowed over five thousand college scholarships for teachers. He writes full-time and lives in Florida with his family.

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