

To all Mocha Girls near and far, we wish you a happy holiday season. Whether you celebrate Hanukkah, Christmas or Kwanzaa may your season celebrations be filled with joyous moments and sprinkled with a few great characters.

- Mocha Girls Read Sisterhood

Mocha Girls Read Mission Statement

Mocha Girls Read mission is to enhance Black women's personal reading experience by reading quality work written by a wide range of authors on various topics and across all genres.

Mocha Girls Read will support literary events in person and online

Mocha Girls Read will provide an open forum for black women to exchange ideas and opinions by fellowshipping with other Black women who love to read in person and online. As well as networking with other book clubs, book bloggers, publishers and literary organizations

Mocha Girls Read will sponsor hosted online and in person events to expose black women to literature.

Mocha Girls Read will maintain a comprehensive website that will feature books, book bloggers and other book clubs.



"We are a group of Black women who love to read, want to read more and meet like-minded women."



January Nomination



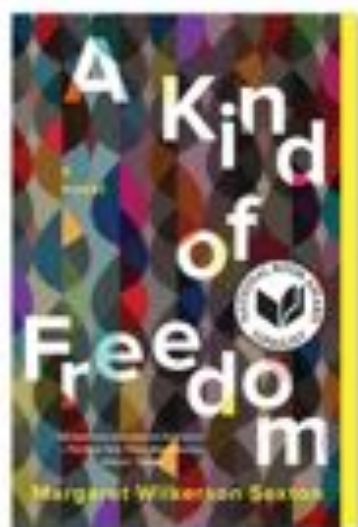
Each month Mocha Girls Read members select one book to nominate for the book of the month. To make the nomination process easier, we will give you a theme for the upcoming month. This way we can mix up the genre, authors, and themes. All you have to do is add your monthly book nomination to the site from 12/5/2018 to 12/9/2018. Then from 12/10/2018 to 12/16/2018 the polls will be open for voting. The book with most votes wins! The winner will be announced on 12/17/2018.

Theme for January- "Paris in the Title"

(A fiction book with PARIS in the title.)

Remember one nomination and three votes per person.

December Book of the Month



A Kind of Freedom by Margaret Wilkerson Sexton

Evelyn is a Creole woman who comes of age in New Orleans at the height of World War Two. Her family inhabits the upper echelon of Black society and when she falls for no-name Renard, she is forced to choose between her life of privilege and the man she loves.

In 1982, Evelyn's daughter, Jackie, is a frazzled single mother grappling with her absent husband's drug addiction. Just as she comes to terms with his abandoning the family, he returns, ready to resume their old life. Jackie must decide if the promise of her husband is worth the near certainty he'll leave again.

Jackie's son, T.C., loves the creative process of growing marijuana more than the weed itself. He finds something hypnotic about training the seedlings, testing the levels, trimming the leaves, drying the buds. He was a square before Hurricane Katrina, but the New Orleans he knew didn't survive the storm, and in its wake he was changed too. Now, fresh out of a four-month stint for possession with the intent to distribute, he decides to start over—until an old friend convinces him to stake his new beginning on one last deal.

For Evelyn, Jim Crow is an ongoing reality, and in its wake new threats spring up to haunt her descendants. *A Kind of Freedom* is an urgent novel that explores the legacy of racial disparity in the South through a poignant and redemptive family history.



Get Mocha Girls Read swag today and help support your book club. 100% of the proceeds go to pay for our website.

Just go to our site mochagirlsread.com and click on the swag logo on to our site.

**MGR
2018
Reading
List**

January

From Compton to Congress by Walter Tucker

February

Queen Sugar by Natalie Baszile

March

Claretta Street by Colette Barris

April

Crazy Rich Asian by Kevin Kwan

May

Boy, Snow, Bird by Helen Oyeyemi

June

Ready Player One by Ernest Cline

July

The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo

August

An American Marriage by Tayari Jones

September

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston

October

Children of Blood & Bone by Tomi Adeyemi

November

A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman

December

A Kind of Freedom by Margaret Wilkerson Sexton



What is a Mocha Girl anyways?

Well, she is a woman of color who loves to read. She reads all kinds of books from Fiction, Non-fiction, Dystopian Novels, Chick Lit, you name it she has read it or is going to read it. A Mocha Girl does not limit herself to books by women only, or by authors from her race. A Mocha Girl just loves a good story with a healthy dose of page turning excitement.

Mocha Girls Read and Review



Mocha Girl Kat

West African mythology! Hello! This is a breathtaking wondrous new world of possibilities. The authentic tongue of magic whispers mysterious nothings in my ear and I indulged in every morsel of this audiobook. Yes! Yes! Yes! Gima. Me. More.

Mocha Girl Stacey

This is the 1st 5 star book for 2018. I loved the whole experience.

What did you think of this months book club selection?
Did you read it or audiobook it? Would you recommend it to someone? Would you have picked this genre on your own?



Mocha Girl Classy

Ove stole my heart. This grumpy old man is lousy at dying, but learns to love again while trying.

Mocha Girl Kenya

I'll go with 3.5 stars. I liked this book, read via audiobook. Ove is 59 but described as 85. I just don't know 60 year olds this out of touch, but it may be more common wherever A Man Named Ove lives.

How many stars would give it?

Mocha Girls please take a minute to leave a review of our sponsored book of the month on Amazon and/or Goodreads. Make sure your voice is heard! The authors appreciate it too.



Spreading the Love

Founder of Mocha Girls Read
Los Angeles Chapter Organizer

Mocha Girls we did it! We completed another year of reading, chatting, laughing, and just loving on each other. Can you believe 7 years of bookish sisterhood has come to a close? I'm so looking forward to a new year with all of you cause MGR meetings are the highlight of my month.

Thank you to the publishers, sponsors and authors who effortlessly help us out with monthly and yearly free books.

Thank you all for a great year and I'm excited to see what 2019 has in store for us.

*Mocha Girl
Alysia*

Welcome the New Chapters in our bookish
Sisterhood



Mocha Girl Joy
Philadelphia
Chapter



Mocha Girl Shenika
Philadelphia
Chapter



Mocha Girl Christal
Sacramento Chapter

*A Big Thank You
To Our Supporters,
Vendors & Friends*

Thank you to all the Mocha Girls who made
over and above donations



haley keim

Thank you Haley Keim for
designing our perfect logo.
<https://www.haleykeim.com>



Thank you Meefup.com for
creating this amazing platform for
us like-minded Mocha Girls to
come together and meet face to
face.



Thank you to all the organizations
that recognized and honored us
with nominations and awards this year.



Thank you to Mocha Girl Tracey who month in and month out
prints our newsletters and our yearbook. Thank you so much.
-Mocha Girl Alysia

To all the authors and publishing companies we cannot say thank you
enough. Thank you for providing us with free books. Your response and
eagerness to help overwhelms us and we are deeply appreciative.

Thank you!

Chapter 4: Oakland



Chapter 5: Tucson



Thank you Antigone Books for opening your doors to us this year. We really appreciate the bookish space you made for us in your store. Thank you for your support and friendly staff. We look forward to spending 2019 with you.
- Mocha Girls Read Tucson

Chapter 1: Los Angeles



Thank you DARBY PARK for welcoming us into your beautiful space for our meetings. We appreciate you and all your wonderful support and staff. Thank you again.
- Mocha Girls Read Los Angeles Chapter

Chapter 2: Tempe



Changing Hands Bookstore you are the cornerstone of our book club. From day one you have been there for us and we "Thank you" and your staff from the bottom of our hearts. We have enjoyed your bookstore and look forward to your great events coming in the New Year.
- Mocha Girls Read Tempe

To our Tempe Chapter WOW another great year of reading and coming together to discuss our thoughts has been a great pleasure!
Thank You And God Bless Your Next Year "2019" Chapters of reading!!!

Mocha Girl Rochelle

Dear Tempe Mocha Girls - Thank you for gathering and sharing your thoughts on this year's books. It's been fun learning other views and also meeting some very interesting people! We hope you'll continue to read and join us next year.

Mocha Girl Karen

Board of Directors Officers & Volunteers

Alysia Allen
(President)
Shanta Gadson
(Secretary)
Ann Allen
(Treasurer)

Board Members

Classandra Green Donna West Nia Taylor
Imhotep Coleman

Volunteers

Thank you to these amazing women who help keep Mocha Girls Read running.

Tami Crockett - LA Chapter Events Organizer
Shanta Dee Gadson - LA Co-Organzier
Taaji Rauf - Twitter Organizer / Mocha Girls Read & Write Instructor
Tiffany G - Oakland Chapter Events Organizer
LaTanya - Oakland Chapter Events Organizer
Teresa Lynch - Instagram Contributor
Tiffani Willis - Website Contributor



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F.A.Q.

Here are a few questions most people have about Mocha Girls Read along with our answers.

What are the fees? We charge you nothing at all to be a member. The only charge might be an event fee and the event will dictate that cost.

What is the book club age limit? We have members of all ages, from 20 something's to great grandmothers in their 90's. We ask that members 18 years old and younger get monthly permission to attend events and meetings by a parent.

Are you currently taking members? The answer will always be YES! We never, ever close our membership.

Do I have to be Black to be a member? Nope. We welcome all women but we want and will keep our focus on the uplifting of Black women.

How are books selected? We have a very democratic selection process. Each month there will be a theme posted. On the 2nd week of each month members will then nominate one book in the monthly theme category on the book club website. The nominations will stay open for 7 days. The following week we will all vote for three books on the list. The voting ballot will be open for 7 days as well. If there is a tie we will vote for the books in the tie during a 48 hour period of time. The one that wins will be the book of the month. Easy!

What kinds of books does the book club read?
Everything! All genres, all races, all ages groups, any and everything!

What if I don't want to read the book of the month? No problem. Just skip the month and join us the following month. But I would love for you to read every book we select because you might find a new author, genre, or some information you might like. You'll never know if you don't try.

She is Leading the way



Mocha Girl Cynthia
San Diego Chapter Organizer



Mocha Girl Margaret
Oakland Chapter Organizer



Mocha Girl Sharnise
Harlem Chapter Organizer



Mocha Girl Linda and Allison
Tucson Chapter Organizers



Mocha Girl Karen
Tempe Chapter Organizer



Mocha Girl Rochelle
Tempe Chapter Organizer

Chapter 3: San Deigo



Thank you Mysterious Galaxy Bookstore for giving us such a great area for our meetings. You provide us a safe place where we can come together each month to discuss our books. Thank you again and we look forward to a new year with you.

-Mocha Girls Read San Diego Chapter

More E.A.Q.'s for you

What are your membership rules? We have just 4 rules. One. Nominate a book each month. Two. Vote for a book each month. Three. Read the book. Four. Discuss the book at a book club meeting or here on the site or at a meeting or on Goodreads.com

What if I can't afford the book of the month? There are a few solutions to this one. First, check your local library to see if they have a copy of the book. If they don't, ask one of your fellow book club members. Or you might win a copy from one of our monthly giveaways.

Where are the meetings? Right now there are eight in person meetings. Los Angeles, Sacramento, Oakland and San Diego, CA, Tucson and Tempe, AZ, Philly, PA, and Harlem, NY. Go to the menu on our website and click on "Join Us!". As far as online, there is a Goodreads group you can join by searching for us in the group section. If that is not your thing try Facebook and Twitter.

If I didn't answer your question or you have a comment, please free to email Mocha Girl Alysia at mochagirl@email.com

GIVEAWAYS

At every book club meeting Mocha Girls Read will give away a new book or ARC (Advance Reader Copy) to one (or two) lucky winners.

What's an ARC? Basically, it's a book that has not been released to the public just yet. Yep! You get an early edition. How do you win? Come to a book club meeting. That's it!

Online Chapter: Twitter



Mocha Girl Devon
Twitter Organizer



Mocha Girl Tanya
Twitter Organizer



Like Us
Follow Us
Join Us



Join Mocha Girl Classy each Wednesday on our Facebook group page for the monthly book chat and Q&A.



You can find us on most social media @mochagirlsread and stop by our book club website mochagirlsread.com

Chapter 4: Harlem Chapter



Thank you to Sister's Uptown Bookstore and to Ms. Janifer Wilson and her amazing daughter/store manager Kori for providing the love-filled space that Mocha Girls Read - Harlem Chapter calls home. Thank you to Ms. Renee Beach of Lucille's Dream for providing the yummy vegan desserts to Sister's Uptown Bookstore (I live for the vegan lemon cake!)
- Mocha Girls Read Harlem

Online Chapter: Goodreads



Mocha Girl Joie
Goodreads Organizer



Online Chapter: Facebook



Mocha Girl Classy
Facebook Organizer &
Author Relations Manager

