

MORNING BOOK GROUP



ABOUT THE BOOK

1918: AS THE GREAT WAR RAGES, JESSIE CARSON TAKES A LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY TO WORK FOR THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR DEVASTATED FRANCE. FOUNDED BY MILLIONAIRE ANNE MORGAN, THIS GROUP OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN HELP REBUILD DESTROYED FRENCH COMMUNITIES JUST MILES FROM THE FRONT. UPON ARRIVAL, JESSIE STRIVES TO ESTABLISH SOMETHING THAT THE FRENCH HAVE NEVER SEEN— CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES. SHE TURNS AMBULANCES INTO BOOKMOBILES AND TRAINS THE FIRST FRENCH FEMALE LIBRARIANS. THEN SHE DISAPPEARS.

1987: WHEN NYPL LIBRARIAN AND ASPIRING WRITER WENDY PETERSON STUMBLES ACROSS A PASSING REFERENCE TO JESSIE CARSON IN THE ARCHIVES, SHE BECOMES CONSUMED WITH LEARNING HER FATE. IN HER OBSESSIVE RESEARCH, SHE DISCOVERS THAT SHE AND THE ELUSIVE LIBRARIAN HAVE MORE IN COMMON THAN THEIR WORK AT NEW YORK'S FAMED LIBRARY, BUT SHE HAS NO IDEA THEIR PATHS WILL CONVERGE IN SURPRISING WAYS ACROSS TIME.

MEETING TIME

NOVEMBER 19
10:00-11:30 AM

MEETINGS IN THE LIBRARY'S MEZZANINE MEETING ROOM

Book Group Facilitator Julia Lanter
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