

YouthREAD 2023

Grades 7-8
Middle School Book Selection



THE LINE TENDER

Written by Kate Allen

The Line Tender is the story of Lucy, the daughter of a marine biologist and a rescue diver, and the summer that changes her life. If she ever wants to lift the cloud of grief over her family and community, she must complete the research her late mother began. She must follow the sharks.

Join our CommunityREAD by reading and sharing this book, then enrich the experience with these questions and activities.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What excites Lucy and Fred about their field guide? What is their common interest? Do you have friends with similar interests? What project might you do together?
- How does Lucy feel after her friend's death? How is this grief similar to losing her mother 5 years earlier. Have you ever lost someone close to you? Describe what it felt like?
- Who are the people in Lucy's life who help her after her friend's death? Who are the people in your life who help you when you're sad?
- Does Lucy really think Fred can read her postcards? If so, how? If not, why does she write them?

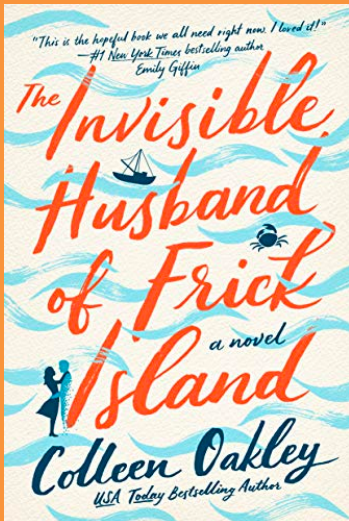
ACTIVITIES

- Throughout the book, Lucy and Fred are working on a field guide of their local area. They gather research, information, and illustrations about animals they find in their community. Pick a few animals in your community and create a field guide to describe them.
- Write a newspaper article describing the change in population of great white sharks to the Rockport community. Be sure to explain why and how the population is changing. Add in a mock interview with one of the characters to gather more information.

Share what you did with the library on Facebook (facebook.com/FHCPL) or Instagram (@FHCPL).

WHAT IS COMMUNITY READ?

CommunityREAD is a month-long community event that encourages reading and discussion. Each year, a different CommunityREAD book is chosen, along with a selection of YouthREAD books that explore similar topics and themes for younger readers.



The 2023 CommunityREAD book is *The Invisible Husband of Frick Island* by Colleen Oakley. The author will present at the Marathon Center for the Performing Arts on April 6, 2023.

2023 YOUTHREAD TITLES

- PreK-Grade 1: *We Forgot Brock!* by Carter Goodrich
- Grades 2-3: *High and Dry* by Eric Walters
- Grades 4-6: *Caterpillar Summer* by Gillian McDunn
- Grades 7-8: *The Line Tender* by Kate Allen
- Grades 9-12: *We Were Liars* by e. lockhart