

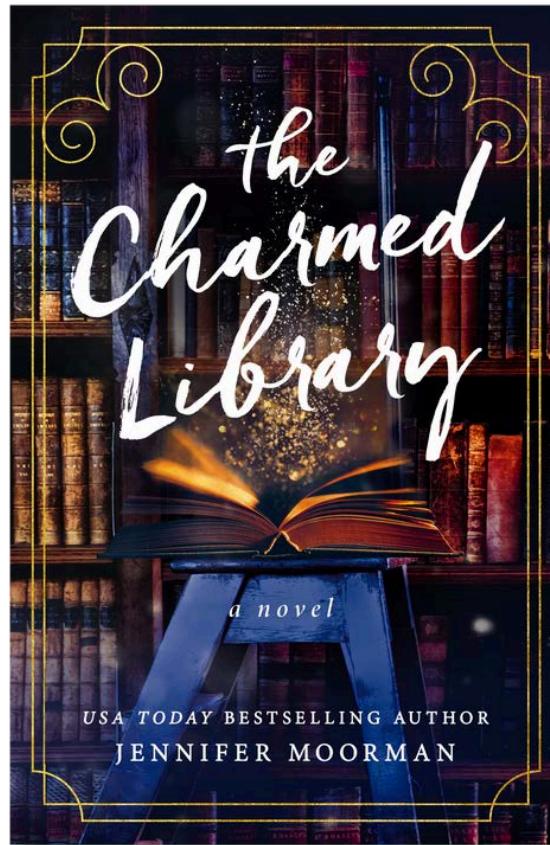
READING GROUP GUIDE

the Charmed Library

a novel

USA TODAY BESTSELLING AUTHOR

JENNIFER MOORMAN



This reading group guide for *The Charmed Library* includes an introduction, discussion questions, ideas for enhancing your book club, and bonus material to elevate your experience. The suggested questions are intended to help you find interesting topics and new perspectives for your discussion. We hope that this guide will add more magic to your conversation and increase your enjoyment of the book.

When Stella burns a journal filled with love notes to her ex, her gift for words awakens in unexpected ways. As the library's magic unravels, bringing fictional characters to life and revealing secrets, Stella must embrace her power and rewrite her own story.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If you could bring one fictional character to life like Stella does, who would it be—and why?
2. *The Charmed Library* is, at its heart, a love letter to books. What book changed your life the way Stella’s favorite novel changed hers?
3. What does the story say about the power of imagination? How does Stella’s ability to see words give her deeper insight into the world?
4. How do you think the presence of fictional characters in real life might impact society—or our own lives—if it were truly possible?
5. Stella finds safety, magic, and discovery in the Blue Sky Valley library. What has a library meant to you during different chapters of your life?
6. How does *The Charmed Library* remind us of the importance of libraries—not just for books, but for community, healing, and belonging?
7. Libraries often serve as places of refuge. In what ways does Stella use the library to escape? In what ways does she use it to grow?
8. Stella is grieving multiple things: her father, a breakup, and a sense of direction. How did her losses affect her ability to move forward?
9. What are some signs in your own life that you’re ready for change—but perhaps resisting it, like Stella?
10. The burning of Stella’s journal acts as a turning point in the story. Have you ever experienced a moment where releasing something opened the door to unexpected transformation?

- 11.** Stella experiences the world through language in a literal, visual way. How did this element of magical realism affect your understanding of her character?
- 12.** Have you ever had a moment where someone's words—written or spoken—changed you? How did they impact your life?
- 13.** What do you think the changing colors, fonts, and behaviors of the words symbolize in Stella's journey?
- 14.** Jack was Stella's childhood book crush. What does the story suggest about the nature of fictional love versus real-life connection?
- 15.** Do you think Stella and Jack's love story is about possibility or nostalgia—or both?
- 16.** What do you make of the fourteen-day limit? How does this time constraint change the stakes and emotions of their relationship?
- 17.** Stella feels “stuck” in her life. What role do stories—both fictional and our own—play in helping us discover our path or calling?
- 18.** In what ways does Stella begin to rediscover who she is and what she wants, beyond what others expect from her?
- 19.** If you were to write the next chapter in your own life, what would the first line be?
- 20.** How did *The Charmed Library* change the way you think about the stories we carry, the words we use, and the magic hidden in everyday places?

ELEVATE YOUR EXPERIENCE

1. The Magic of Words & Emotional Truth

Stella has always seen words, but after she burns her journal, they begin to demand more of her. Discussion Focus: How does the novel portray words as living, emotional beings? In what ways do words shape Stella's understanding of herself and others? Are there words—spoken or written—that have deeply changed your own life? How might becoming more intentional with our words reshape our relationships and self-talk?

2. Falling in Love with Stories and Yourself

Jack represents more than romance. He reflects Stella's longing, courage, and rediscovery. Discussion Focus: What does Jack symbolize for Stella beyond romantic love? How do stories help her reconnect with her truest self? Have you ever fallen in love with a book that changed how you saw your own life? What stories have shaped the person you are today?

3. The Sacredness of Libraries & Belonging

The library is a living heart. Discussion Focus: How does the library function as a place of refuge, belonging, and quiet magic? What role have libraries played in your own life? Why do you think community spaces like libraries feel sacred to so many readers?

4. The Courage to Choose Wonder

Stella must choose belief even when it feels safer not to. Discussion Focus: What does it cost Stella to believe in magic, and what does it give her in return? Where do you see courage taking quiet forms in the story? How can choosing wonder change the way we move through our own lives?

FRUITY PEBBLES CHEESECAKE



This no-bake cheesecake is inspired by Stella's love of her favorite childhood cereals, as well as her inability to cook (or bake!) anything well.

Yield: 8 servings

Ingredients

Crust Ingredients:

- 3½ cups Fruity Pebbles Cereal
- 3 cups mini marshmallows
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter

Cheesecake Filling Ingredients:

- 16 oz cream cheese softened
- ¼ cup powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 7 oz tub marshmallow creme
- 1½ cup cereal lightly chopped

Directions

1. In a large microwave-safe bowl, combine the cereal, marshmallows and butter. Microwave uncovered on high for 2–3 minutes. The marshmallows will begin to puff up in the microwave.
2. Once the marshmallows are soft, remove the bowl from the microwave, and stir the ingredients until all of the cereal is coated with melted marshmallows and butter. Transfer the mixture to a lightly sprayed or buttered pie plate.
3. Press the mixture into the pan and up the sides to form a crust. Set aside to firm while you are preparing the filling.
4. In a large bowl, mix together the cream cheese, powdered sugar, and vanilla until it is smooth and creamy. Add in the marshmallow creme, and continue to mix the filling together. Using a spatula, stir in the additional cereal directly into the filling until it is mixed in.
5. Pour the filling over the prepared crust, smoothing it with the spatula. Place the cheesecake in the refrigerator and allow it to become firm, at least 1–2 hours. (You can also place it in the freezer for about 30 minutes.)
6. Sprinkle extra cereal or sprinkles on top if desired.

THE BURNED JOURNAL S'MORES DIP



This cozy, golden-toasted s'mores dip is layered with melted milk chocolate and pillow-y marshmallows, baked until bubbly. Scoop it up with graham crackers, strawberries, or shortbread cookies for a warm, shareable dessert that feels equal parts nostalgic, comforting, and just a little magical. It's a show-stopping treat that comes together in minutes and perfect for book clubs, late-night reading, and celebrating the stories that change everything.

Yield: 10 servings

Ingredients

1 bag milk chocolate chips (I love Ghirardelli!)
1 bag large marshmallows
graham crackers, cookies, and fruit for serving

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.
2. Pour the chocolate chips into an 8- or 9-inch oven-safe skillet.
3. Bake for 3-4 minutes or until chocolate is melted.
4. Arrange the marshmallows over the top of the chocolate chips.
5. Bake for 2-3 minutes or marshmallows are browned.
6. Serve immediately with graham crackers, cookies, and fruit for dipping.

A conversation with
Jennifer Moorman

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Q: Was the title of your book, *The Charmed Library*, always the title?

A: No. I originally titled it “The Power of Love and Moonlight.” But that title doesn’t give you a lot of clues as to what the story is about. Plus, simply using the word *library* draws attention because we love libraries! And if it’s charmed, then we *have* to know what’s happening in this library. It is magical? Is it cozy? Also, I think the title I originally gave it could be considered a spoiler, maybe...

Q: Who's the main character of your book—and was that always their name?

A: Stella is the main character, but her name was originally Emma because (are you ready for this?), I wrote the first edition of this story in 2018, which is 7 years before this final edition released. So much about that original story has transitioned into this expanded, more exciting, more magical version.

Q: At the start of the book, what's the character's goal?

A: Stella wants to keep keeping on just as she is, even though she's obviously unhappy. She knows she's not thrilled about where her life is, but she's stuck and slightly unwilling to change when the story starts.

Q: What was the core idea for this novel—a plot point? a theme?—and where did it come from?

A: I never start novels with a specific theme in mind. The theme, if there is one, evolves organically during the storytelling. If I were to pick out one theme in the novel, it would be to embrace your life and take risks—on life, on love, and on yourself.

Q: At what point did you come up with the final version of the first line? What is it?

A: Not until I had already revised the second draft, and even then I wasn't sure I needed to add a new first line, but I did, and I'm so happy with how readers are introduced to this story.

First two lines: Stella Parker had never burned a book in her life. Had never once thrown pages of text—much less handwritten love letters and poetry—into a fire.

Q: Did you know the ending of the book when you started?

A: No! It came to me as I wrote. I had a vague idea, but I didn't actually know how the story would unfold when I got to the last few chapters.

Q: What's something in this book that you've never done before?

A: I've never burned a book! And I don't plan on it!

Q: How do you want readers to feel when they close the book?

A: I hope readers feel uplifted, hopeful, and surrounded by the belief that magic is everywhere and that when we truly believe in our own magic and our gifts, we can significantly transform our lives and the lives around us.

Q: What did you learn from this book? About writing, or life, or the writing life?

A: I learned a lot about libraries and what goes on inside them from a librarian's perspective. I enjoyed talking with librarians about their day-to-day tasks and what they love about not only being librarians but about the library itself. I also learned, which is no surprise, that so many of us feel as though libraries are sacred spaces where we find ourselves, healing, love, and friendship.

Talk to Arnie.

Find Hook.

Ignore Percy.

Dance with Jack.



Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Re-shelve returned books

Dust the poetry shelf

Water the fern by the reading nook

straighten the bookmarks

Brew a fresh pot of tea for

afternoon regulars

Remind yourself: we

Go home believing

magic than yesterday

