



YA Café Podcast

Episode 10: *Someday, Somewhere*

26 April 2018

- Amanda: [00:02](#) Welcome to the YA Café where we share conversations about books for teachers, readers, and caffeine addicts everywhere. On today's episode, we'll be talking about "Someday, Somewhere" by Lindsay Champion. Grab of your favorite beverage friends, and let's talk books.
- Ad: [00:17](#) This podcast is made possible by Nouvelle ELA Teaching Resources. Find Secondary ELA resources to engage and inspire, like an "Intro to Shakespeare Escape Room". Nouvelle ELA, something new.
- Amanda: [00:32](#) Welcome y'all! As always, our first segment will be spoiler free, so you can stick around even if you haven't checked out the new novel yet. I'm Amanda Thrasher
- Danielle: [00:39](#) and I'm Danielle Hall, an 8th and 9th grade English teacher and I blog at teachnouvelle.com. And we have a special guest today. All of our guests are special, of course, but this person is emerging from the shadows to talk music with us today. Usually she's our producer extraordinaire, but she's also an amazing violinist and music teacher. Leila Hobbs. Hi Leila!
- Amanda: [00:39](#) Hi!
- Amanda: [00:39](#) Yay Leila!
- Danielle: [01:03](#) And today it is a music book, so that's why we have rounded up some amazing talented folks to talk about, amazing talented folks. In Lindsay Champion's debut novel "Someday, Somewhere", we get a split perspective of a serendipitous meeting and a whirlwind romance of Ben and Dominique. Ben is a violinist at Brighton Conservatory in New York City, and Dominique is a high school student, dancer, and cinema buff from New Jersey. She pretends to be a student at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts to create reasons to be in the city, and to run into Ben. As the novel unfolds we watch Dom train back and forth from New Jersey as she wonders if Ben will ever discover the truth about her. Alright, Leila, you're the one who spotted this book on the upcoming releases list. What did you expect going into it?
- Leila: [01:53](#) So, I like, obviously have a background in learning to play violin, and I played in a very competitive youth orchestra that had a lot of kids who kind of had similar experiences to Ben. And so I was just, like, excited to read a book that talked about this perspective of trying to perform at a very, very high level as a teenager, while attempting to balance family life, social life, academics, and just like, being a well rounded person.

- Danielle: [02:24](#) Absolutely. That makes a lot of sense. And for me, I was really drawn into this New York setting. I went to NYU for my first year of college and I thought it was going to be like hyper nostalgic, New York awesomeness. They run around and it's a Hollywood movie sort of thing. Mmmm, yeah. Amanda, what did you think?
- Amanda: [02:48](#) So, this book is not a book that's going to really surprise anybody if you've read YA for any kind of length of time. You've got your, your insta love. They lock eyes and all of a sudden world falls away, and you've got your one note supporting best friend who just kinda like helps things move along. You know, all of these very well-worn YA tropes, uh, kind of come together, and like, there are a few fresh things that are present in this novel but overall just a, just a little flat for me.
- Danielle: [03:18](#) Fine. Just fine.
- Amanda: [03:18](#) Yeah, fine, just fine.
- Danielle: [03:20](#) So let's start off with the characters and minor characters. So, we have Dominique who, like I said, is a high school student, lives in New Jersey, is from a poor family, and her mother owns a laundromat and is trying to make this business work and support their family, and definitely is struggling. And from the beginning we know that Dom likes dance but has had to quit dance because she has to help her mom at the laundromat, and so that's sort of the, the Dom perspective. Ben's perspective is that he's in this hyper competitive music environment, like Leila said, and then they meet.
- Amanda: [04:02](#) I thought that all the Ben stuff was done really well. I really liked her descriptions of music and especially his, like, constantly practicing, not only when he was holding the violin. That was super true to life for me, just how he would like, walk around the city and be like, practicing his fingerings.
- Leila: [04:02](#) Yes!
- Amanda: [04:02](#) It was like, "Oh, that's a thing I have done so much of my life."
- Leila: [04:02](#) Yeah, for sure.
- Amanda: [04:23](#) So, there's this one line in the novel when Ben's parents, or someone tells him, like, "You need to take a break, like, you don't want to get burned out". And Ben says "No, because if I take a break, someone else is practicing".
- Leila: [04:23](#) Mmm, yep.
- Amanda: [04:36](#) In that hyper competitive world that's really, real. Like, I remember (when) I was a music major in college, um, my best friend was a clarinet player, still is a clarinet player, is a professional clarinet player, um, and there was another girl in our school who over the summer put a poster up in her bedroom that said, "John Haynes is practicing right now. What are you doing?"

All: [04:36](#) *laughter*

Leila: [04:36](#) It hurts.

Amanda: [04:59](#) As like, as like her motivation to go practice.

Danielle: [05:01](#) I really loved, (I'm like the non-music person in this podcast episode right now,) but I really loved when Ben was talking about music and he says at one point, "Yeah, I know it's all about balance' I say, even though it isn't, but sometimes I think that thing astounding musicians have, the ability to take a two dimensional page and make the notes bloom and roar, is something you can't teach". And I just loved when Lindsey Champion was, like, describing music through Ben, like that was the best part of the novel for me.

Amanda: [05:36](#) Yeah, I liked that. I also really liked that she colored Ben's character in this way where he, like, loved music and he, when he was practicing this duet, he could not fathom that he was the one bringing down the duet. He was like, "No, it must have been the other person, like I'm flawless if I didn't have to deal with this problem", and I was like, "Oh my God, I've been that person" *laughter*

Leila: [06:03](#) But it was like flashback inducing, it was like, "Ugh, oh God, I hope I was never that person"

Amanda: [06:03](#) Oh you were.

Leila: [06:03](#) Definitely,

Amanda: [06:07](#) You were definitely that person.

Danielle: [06:08](#) And then there's this moment where somebody asks Ben how much he's practicing, and he lies and says less than he's practicing, in order for him not to come across as like super obsessive and intense. Have you ever lied about how much you were practicing?

Amanda: [06:24](#) Oh yeah. Definitely. *laughter* Leila?

Leila: [06:24](#) No

Amanda: [06:24](#) No?

Leila: [06:29](#) No, I don't think so. Maybe that makes me more annoying though? I think that does make me more annoying, that I would ever deflate the amount that I practiced, I would just be like, Oh yeah, I practiced this for, seven hours".

Amanda: [06:41](#) Well it's like, uh, you know, building up your talent kind of thing, right? Like, "Oh, I only had to practice this for about three hours as opposed to eight hours that you hacked away at it"

Leila: [06:52](#) Now I feel that, I think I was just like, deeply obnoxious as a teenager. *laughter*

- Amanda: [06:52](#) "As a teenager", she says
- Leila: [07:00](#) *laughter* Not anymore. Never again.
- Amanda: [07:00](#) Cured.
- Danielle: [07:06](#) Alright, so, we also, in addition to "Someday, Somewhere", brought in some other book recommendations for books that feature creative types, and this does not only mean musicians, but also dancers and theater geeks and pretty much the whole gamut. So we do want to hit on some of those and what we thought that those books brought to the table, and you can definitely check out all of these recommendations in our show notes. Amanda, do you want to go first?
- Amanda: [07:33](#) Sure. So one of the books that I think is a really nice portrayal of a classical musician is "If I Stay", which is a pretty famous book, but I really like the way that Mia's cello playing is, like, such a part of her in like, a non destructive way, which I think is like not often the way music is portrayed in YA novels. And Mia, like it's clearly something that enriches her life, that like makes her feel whole. And I really like that part of her, like, whole characterization.
- Danielle: [08:09](#) I agree, and I love how she starts out trying things out, and testing the cello, and it's really when her parents see her true commitment to it that she, you know, gets to upgrade to the real deal non-rental, have your own cello that you then have to figure out how to transport everywhere.
- Amanda: [08:25](#) Right. How about you Danielle?
- Danielle: [08:31](#) So, I just finished "Under A Painted Sky" by Stacy Lee, who is one of the authors that we discovered in "The Radical Element", and one of the things that I loved in "Under A Painted Sky" was that the main character, Samantha, was a violinist and then went on the Oregon Trail. And at one moment she gets disconnected from her violin, like, I don't want to spoil it for you, but there's a moment where she doesn't have her violin, and yet she's still yearns for her violin and we see it in all of her thoughts and all of her actions. And I really wish that Dominique in "Someday, Somewhere" had yearned for her dance in the same way. Like, I kind of felt like she swept it under the rug and I wanted to see more of that like, pervasive passion.
- Leila: [09:18](#) Yeah. I mean obviously the reason given in the novel that she quit dance was because it was unaffordable, but it definitely didn't seem like a big part of her character, like, as a person.
- Amanda: [09:18](#) Yeah
- Leila: [09:31](#) Um, which was a little strange to me. And definitely like when an art or an instrument is a huge part of your life, you cannot escape it. Like I can't even count all the times that I had been leaving my house and I just grabbed my violin, and then I make it out to my car and I'm like, "Why did grab my violin?" *laughter* Like I'm going to brunch with my friends. I don't need ...

Amanda: [09:31](#) Just in case!

Leila: [09:31](#) ... my violin.

Danielle: [09:55](#) Like, it's an extra appendage.

Leila: [09:58](#) It really is, it just is an extension of your body. And I definitely did not super get that sense from Dom.

Amanda: [10:05](#) I think, uh, a book that had a really good, uh, main character who is a dancer who, like was such a huge part of her life, uh, was this book called "Not Otherwise Specified" by Hannah Moskowitz. Uh, the main character Etta, she was just like so deep in with dancing and music, and it just threaded through everything that she did in her life. Like she was super aware of, like, her body's movement, like, just when she was out hanging out with her friends, and things like that.

Danielle: [10:05](#) Right!

Amanda: [10:30](#) I just wish we had more of that from Dom.

Danielle: [10:32](#) It becomes almost like a worldview, right? The thing that you love, it shapes your worldview.

Amanda: [10:32](#) Yeah.

Leila: [10:32](#) Yeah.

Danielle: [10:39](#) A book that I enjoyed as a non musician, music listener, was "Kids Like Us" by Hilary Reyl. And in this book we have Martin, who is on the Autism spectrum, and one of the things that he does is he listens to music to, kind of control his emotions, and either bring them to a place of calmness, or, likewise to bring himself out of a place of depression, and I really loved that books portrayal of a passion for music, from a non musician. And one of the things I did like about "Someday, Somewhere" was Ben and Dominique's bonding over jazz. They talk about jazz a lot , and it kind of plays into this old Hollywood feel they're trying to achieve in the novel, but one of the things that Lindsey Champion does in the book is that Ben and Dom each make a playlist for the other, which I thought was totally cute, and that means that you as the reader can go listen to some of their favorite songs. I really liked that.

Leila: [11:47](#) Yeah. I thought that was a really cool aspect.

Amanda: [11:52](#) Yeah, that was cute. So one thing I wish there was a little more of in YA is, uh, I want to see more teenagers who are musicians or dancers or whatever, but they're not like hell bent on going to Julliard. You know what I mean?

Danielle: [12:11](#) Just like, satisfied to be average, like an average musician, average dancer, not huge ambitions for that for life, but like enjoying it?

Amanda: [12:18](#) Or like, want to grow up and be a band director and orchestra teacher, because that's what I want it to be. That's what a lot of people wanted to be.

Leila: [12:25](#) Yeah, like, performance is not the end all, be all of having a music career.

Amanda: [12:25](#) Yeah.

Leila: [12:30](#) I say this as a music teacher, but like *laughter*

Amanda: [12:32](#) Like, the fundamental purpose of music is connection, and you just have all of these like, solo tortured artists when they're 17 and I'm just like, some people just want to go be in marching band. *laughter* Like, you know,

Leila: [12:43](#) Some people just want to play as a hobby.

Danielle: [12:43](#) Yes.

Leila: [12:47](#) Like, definitely a lot of my students that I currently teach are not going to go on to do music professionally, but they can certainly play violin for the rest of their lives, and play in their church, or play with their friends, or play with their family and like, enjoy it for the rest of their life, but it doesn't have to be their profession or the all consuming aspect of their life.

Danielle: [13:12](#) Right. So, when I was in high school, I was super into drama, I adored that. I loved drama and musical theater and I did choir on the side, kind of as a means to an end, in musical theater. And when I applied to New York University, I applied with the intention of going for performance, and then I decided that I would much rather do something else, and be an English teacher who still kept drama in her life as a hobby. So like that's where I am and that's how I got there, and it really was just this acceptance that I could be passionate about something without going into performance

Leila & Amanda: [13:12](#) Yeah.

Amanda: [13:12](#) Unison "yeah"! Five points!.

Danielle: [13:58](#) *laughter* And with that friends we'll take our first break. When we come back we'll share about "Things We Like A Latte", then we'll return to our discussion of "Someday, Somewhere" and dig a little deeper.

New Speaker: [13:58](#) *music break*

Amanda: [14:25](#) Welcome back, y'all, it's time for "Things We Like A Latte". Danielle, what's your brew of choice this week?

Danielle: [14:27](#) Well, I was going to talk about "Under Painted Sky" by Stacy Lee, but I already mentioned that, so, hooray! Instead, um, I want to talk about "Eliza and Her Monsters" by Francesca Zappia, this book is phenomenal, strongly recommended. So Eliza is an introvert, she has drawn this web comic that become super famous, but as a creator, she's anonymous. And even though the

web comic is popular at her school and around the world, no one knows who she is. She enjoys that because she's an introvert, and then when those things come kind of under threat, when a fan moves to her school, drama ensues. It's awesome. There are panels of the web comic in the novel, and we get a lot of mythos from the novel. The characters are amazing, and heartfelt, and I love them so much and I want to reread this book today and you should read it too. "Eliza and Her Monsters" by Francesca Zappia.

- Amanda: [15:29](#) Excellent. Thank you, Danielle. Leila, what about you?
- Leila: [15:39](#) So my thing that I Like A Latte is not really a thing, or a book, but it's a bunch of videos that you can look up on Youtube of babies wearing glasses for the first time. I mean, it's exactly what the title says. It's just kids from like, I don't know, anywhere from nine months to two years seeing, like, their families faces, or their mom's face for the first time.
- Amanda/Danielle: [15:39](#) Awww, oh my gosh!
- Leila: [16:03](#) And they just smile, and just burst into laughter, and they're so joyful and it just warms my, like, dark heart. *laughter* And, it makes me feel good about the world.
- Danielle: [16:03](#) Yay!
- Amanda: [16:03](#) That sounds delightful, thank you Leila.
- Danielle: [16:03](#) How about you, Amanda?
- Amanda: [16:15](#) So for me, Danielle and I just started playing this game called "The Witness". Uh, we're paying it on Playstation, it's also available on steam. It's a puzzle game where you are on an island, and the whole island is a puzzle box. Uh, it's very much like Mist if you ever enjoyed that game. It's really beautiful bright colors. It's got a lot of different areas with different feels in them to go and explore, and it's just really been a great game. I definitely recommend it, it's "The Witness"
- Danielle: [16:15](#) And you can't die in it!
- Amanda: [16:47](#) And you can't die. *laughter*
- Danielle: [16:50](#) We're going to take a quick break and when we come back we'll return to our discussion on "Someday, Somewhere". The rest of the show may contain spoilers, so if you're leaving us here, please keep in touch on Instagram and Twitter @yacafepodcast. We'll be back after this quick break.
- Danielle: [17:12](#) Hey y'all, it's Danielle. Do you want to support this podcast and check out a book where you recommended today? Audible is offering YA Café listeners a free audio book download with a free 30 day trial to give you the opportunity to check out their service. You can check out the audio book for "If I Stay" by Gayle Foreman, narrated by Kirsten Potter. I just love her earnest, slightly sarcastic

tone that really brings Mia's narrative to life. And the thing I really love about audio books? I can take them anywhere. In the car to the grocery store, or on a walk with Padfoot. It's just one more way to get more books in my day. To download your free audio book today go to audibletrial.com/yacafé.

- Amanda: [17:54](#) Welcome back, y'all, to the YA Café. We're continuing our discussion on "Someday, Somewhere" by Lindsay Champion. If you haven't read this yet, we want to warn you again that this segment will contain spoilers.
- Danielle: [17:54](#) Spoilers!
- Amanda: [17:54](#) Go.
- Danielle: [18:07](#) All right, so, let's get real. This book was not the bright shining star we hoped it would be.
- Amanda: [18:13](#) Yeah, I thought it was, fine. I think that the biggest problem with the book was that it should've just been a book from Ben's perspective.
- Danielle: [18:24](#) Yes, exactly! That's what I thought, I'm like, Lindsay Champion clearly favored Ben's perspective. He became the main character, Dom became completely unimportant to the novel. Like, her stuff didn't matter, it wasn't as interesting, so why not just write a single perspective and have it be Ben?
- Leila: [18:38](#) Yeah. And like, clearly, because the author also went to Tisch and was a, dance major (not a music major), but like, clearly she understands, like, trying to succeed at the arts at a very high level. Like she could kind of get inside Ben's head, but I don't think she had any, like, relation to trying to get inside the head of like a, poor high school student from New Jersey, and so it was just, mmm, not great.
- Danielle: [19:07](#) That's, that's exactly what I felt. I felt that Dom was just boring, and Lindsay Champion's love of dance didn't even come through because it didn't seem like Dom loved dance, even though she used to do it. She didn't even, like, dance her way down the sidewalk, and all she really cared about with dance as far as the book was concerned was that when she put on her athletic wear to go see Ben, she's like, "ah ha ha! The last time I wore this I was dancing".
- Amanda: [19:37](#) Yeah. I uh, I was really disappointed because in the beginning I thought that Dom was just going to be a much, like, more important part of the novel. But I felt like she really was just a bridge to Ben. And I felt like, Cass, in particular, his only role was to give Dom his birthday money, to go and like, stalk this random violin player she saw this one time and then be like, "Go to him", you know? Like, it was just depressing. And she didn't have any other friends, not a single friend was named for Dom, other than Cass. Like, not even just a random person passing her a pen in math or something.
- Danielle: [20:14](#) Right. And she spent all this time on the train and I was like, "Girl, what are you doing? Like, get on with your life in your city. Like don't waste your life on the train to New York", which is like, not a thing that people do all the time.

Leila: [20:33](#) Like, the only thing that we hear about her life, or her neighborhood is really negative stuff. Like, we don't hear about any female friends at her school. Um, and really the biggest background we get from her neighborhood is like, creepy dudes that like, accost her on the sidewalk.

D & A: [20:33](#) Yeah.

Danielle: [20:53](#) And halfway through the novel, here's the big one, halfway through the novel we discover that Dom is biracial and her mom's white, and her father is from Ecuador and he's absent. Doesn't pay child support, doesn't do anything. So that's terrible.

Amanda: [21:11](#) Yeah.

Leila: [21:12](#) Yeah. It was very, uh, stereotype-ish.

Danielle: [21:15](#) Yeah. I think it really relied on a stereotype.

Leila: [21:18](#) And then also like the super hardworking single mom, out there by herself with no support. Uh, how, there's this whole bit in the novel about how her mom wouldn't have any boyfriends because of Dom? I don't know if it struck anybody else that way, but to me it was just very, like, her mom's sole purpose in life was to be a hard worker for her kid and not have any like, personal interests, or desires, or feelings.

Danielle: [21:47](#) Right. And, as the child of a single mother, I can tell you it wasn't like that for me.

Leila: [21:56](#) I mean, but it shouldn't be like that.

Danielle: [21:56](#) Right.

Leila: [22:00](#) Single moms should have desires, and pursuits, and feelings,

Danielle: [22:00](#) One hundred percent!

Leila: [22:03](#) besides about your kid.

Danielle: [22:08](#) Yeah. And, like, to go back to the race thing, we find out that Dom's father (who is absent) is from Ecuador, and her mother is white. And this comes out in a restaurant where a random lady asks Dom, like, if she has a napkin and she asks her in Spanish. And Dom doesn't speak Spanish, and she expresses a lot of, kind of, remorse that she doesn't speak Spanish, a little bit of frustration because it always happens to her that people in her neighborhood speak Spanish to her, and then kind of anxiety about not having two halves to her cultural identity when she feels that she should.

Leila: [22:48](#) Um, I will say that I found some of, um, Ben's, descriptions of her kind of gross. Um, I don't know if that struck anyone else, but like Ben's like internal

monologue about meeting dominique was very like, "Oh, she has like, a big ol' butt" and like, "Oh, she's so curvy."

- Amanda: [22:48](#) Dat booty.
- Leila: [22:48](#) Eh. It was just like, unnecessarily
- Danielle: [22:48](#) objectifying.
- Leila: [22:48](#) Yeah!
- Danielle: [23:18](#) I agree. And he definitely spends a lot of time describing her voice, um, which actually makes a lot of sense for a musician, I think for a super obsessed, intense musician who sees his world through the violin.
- Leila: [23:32](#) Yeah. Describing her voice is fine. There was too much, like, describing her booty and like, describing her cleavage for me it was just like, ughhh.
- Amanda: [23:32](#) Yeah. I mean, he's also a teenage guy though. Also didn't love it, but ...
- Leila: [23:50](#) So, one sense that I got from the book is that the author was definitely, like, very into the arts and like, had definitely studied at a very high level and like, understood the pressure. That really came through, her descriptions of practicing and it consuming your whole life.
- Amanda: [24:09](#) I thought her description of performing was very accurate. Like I remember,
- Leila: [24:09](#) What?!
- Amanda: [24:16](#) Oh yeah, when I played a concerto there was like, a lot going on in my brain. I was like, "What does that flute doing? Why is that happening? I screwed that note up. Oh, this is going pretty well." Like, yeah.
- Danielle: [24:24](#) Another thing I really liked about this novel was the treatment of Ben's manic episode at the end. It does come out that one of the reasons why he's so obsessed with the violin and intense in this moment is that he is, you know suffering a mental health issue of mania at that moment. One of the things he does is he keeps wanting to retune his E-string and he like, replaces it with gold strings and like, I didn't even know there were gold strings, *laughter* but I could imagine even though, you know, I don't have this background, I was like, "Oh man, how many gold strings have you ruined?" Trying to like, get the right one and that's a lot of money. And I really liked that it came out at the end that these moments were symptomatic of an untreated, undiagnosed mental health concern.
- Amanda: [25:19](#) I thought that was done really well too, and that's part of why I felt kind of cheated by the end of the novel. So the book basically ends with this manic episode (which was done really well), but then it goes to, just a list of prescriptions for lithium and other medications for Ben. And then it ends with Dom's perspective of spotting Ben across the subway platform and he's carrying

a saxophone now, and that just felt like not enough. Like, when we had just ridden this crazy wave with Ben, like, as the character that we really dug into more, and then to have it end with Dom and not seeing his evolution, so that was pretty dissatisfying for me.

- Leila: [26:02](#) Yeah. And I felt like seeing him at the end with a saxophone, like, maybe that was a nod to his love of jazz, but it also felt like him switching to an easier instrument? Which was like a weird note for me.
- Amanda: [26:19](#) Wait, like you're saying the saxophone is easier than the violin? Because I'm here to fight you. *laughter*
- Leila: [26:25](#) No no no, no, I'm not saying, no I'm not saying that it is. I felt like that was what the author was implying
- Amanda: [26:25](#) Oh, okay
- Leila: [26:32](#) was that like, "All been needed to do was just play saxophone and play jazz and be happy,
- Danielle: [26:32](#) Ohhh
- Leila: [26:32](#) and not play classical violin"
- Danielle: [26:40](#) I mean I disagree. Like, I think that it was a head nod to the jazz, like you said,
- Leila: [26:45](#) but it, yeah, but it was like jazz would make him happier and classical music was making him miserable.
- Amanda: [26:47](#) That's how I read it too Leila, like I didn't ... Yeah, I agree
- Leila: [26:52](#) I didn't love it because I feel like it plays into the notion that like, "Classical music is for squares and jazz music is totally chilled out" and like, "You don't have to practice hard or stress out to play jazz."
- Amanda: [26:52](#) Yeah
- Leila: [27:08](#) Which is like, not true at all, like to be a great jazz musician, like you definitely have to practice and know your instrument. Um, and so it just felt like the solution to Ben's mania was to pick an easier, less stressful form of music. And, uh, it just was strange to me.
- Danielle: [27:23](#) Yeah, I mean the transition to another instrument, and I guess I missed the fact that it was a jazz instrument, like I know that saxophone is for jazz, right? Like I get it. But, like, I thought that the transition was more about the violin potentially, like, becoming a crutch for him to fall back into his, like, self-destructive habits? And not because the violin is for neurotic people, but just because that is what he had expressed his neuroses through.

Leila: [28:00](#) So, one thing that I did love about the novel was the ending of the love story, uh quote unquote "love story" between Dom and Ben. Um, I definitely was reading it and was like, "Ugh, this is nauseating. Like this is not what happens between real people". Um, and so like, #spoilers, I did really appreciate the fact that they didn't end up together.

Amanda: [28:00](#) Yeah.

Danielle: [28:25](#) Yeah, and she wasn't "The thing that cured his mania"

Leila: [28:28](#) Right! Like I was super nervous that that's where the book was going,

Danielle: [28:28](#) Yeah.

Leila: [28:34](#) and like, you know, even though obviously we had some different feelings about the end of Ben's story, um, I think it was definitely a good thing that they didn't end up together and that the novel did not prescribe love as the panacea for all, like emotional ailments,

Danielle: [28:34](#) Yeah

Leila: [28:52](#) or like mental ailments. I thought that that was an excellent choice on behalf of the author, and I was just really like, pleasantly surprised that the novel took that turn.

Amanda: [29:01](#) Yeah, I agree.

Danielle: [29:01](#) Me too.

Danielle: [29:03](#) That's our show for today, friends. You can find us on Instagram and Twitter @yacafepodcast, we'd love to hear from you! And if you're enjoying the show, please consider leaving us a review on iTunes. Happy reading!