

This Time Will Be Different PDF (Limited Copy)

Misa Sugiura



More Free Book



Scan to Download

This Time Will Be Different Summary

A Journey of Identity, Loss, and Resilience.

Written by Books1

More Free Book



Scan to Download

About the book

In "This Time Will Be Different," Misa Sugiura weaves a poignant narrative that explores themes of identity, cultural heritage, and the complexities of friendship against the backdrop of a Japanese American community grappling with the legacy of a painful past. The story centers around 16-year-old CJ, whose family's struggles to reclaim their farm—a symbol of resilience and ancestral ties—force her to confront the hidden truths of her family's history and the weight of unspoken prejudices. As CJ navigates the challenges of adolescence, she learns that understanding her roots and embracing her heritage is vital not just for her own growth, but for reconciling the fractures within her family and community. This heartfelt coming-of-age tale invites readers to reflect on their own identities and the importance of standing up for what is right, making it a powerful and relatable read for anyone seeking to understand the meaning of belonging and the courage it takes to rewrite one's destiny.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

About the author

Misa Sugiura is an accomplished author known for her poignant and engaging storytelling that often explores themes of identity, culture, and resilience, particularly within the context of Japanese American experiences. With a background in creative writing and a passion for literature, Sugiura has garnered critical acclaim for her novels that resonate with young adults, including her debut work, "It's Not Like It's a Secret," which skillfully navigates the complexities of adolescence and cultural heritage. "This Time Will Be Different," her follow-up novel, continues to showcase her talent for weaving intricate narratives that reflect the struggles and triumphs of marginalized voices, earning her a dedicated readership and recognition in the literary community.

More Free Book



Scan to Download



Try Bookey App to read 1000+ summary of world best books

Unlock **1000+** Titles, **80+** Topics
New titles added every week

- Brand
- Leadership & Collaboration
- Time Management
- Relationship & Communication
- Business Strategy
- Creativity
- Public
- Money & Investing
- Know Yourself
- Positive Psychology
- Entrepreneurship
- World History
- Parent-Child Communication
- Self-care
- Mind & Spirituality

Insights of world best books



Free Trial with Bookey

Summary Content List

Chapter 1:

Chapter 2:

Chapter 3:

Chapter 4:

Chapter 5:

Chapter 6:

Chapter 7:

Chapter 8:

Chapter 9:

Chapter 10:

Chapter 11:

Chapter 12:

Chapter 13:

Chapter 14:

Chapter 15:

Chapter 16:

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 17:

Chapter 18:

Chapter 19:

Chapter 20:

Chapter 21:

Chapter 22:

Chapter 23:

Chapter 24:

Chapter 25:

Chapter 26:

Chapter 27:

Chapter 28:

Chapter 29:

Chapter 30:

Chapter 31:

Chapter 32:

Chapter 33:

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 34:

Chapter 35:

Chapter 36:

Chapter 37:

Chapter 38:

Chapter 39:

Chapter 40:

Chapter 41:

Chapter 42:

Chapter 43:

Chapter 44:

Chapter 45:

Chapter 46:

Chapter 47:

Chapter 48:

Chapter 49:

Chapter 50:

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 51:

Chapter 52:

Chapter 53:

Chapter 54:

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 1 Summary:

Chapter Summary: Heart's Desire

In a busy flower shop called Heart's Desire, chaos reigns as the workspaces overflow with vibrant flowers and greenery, creating an almost overwhelming explosion of colors. CJ, the protagonist and apprentice, is in the midst of preparing for a mid-December wedding. Twenty-five vases await the meticulous arrangements that will soon transform them into beautiful displays. CJ's aunt, Hannah, oversees the preparations and incorporates a unique educational twist into their work—quizzing CJ on the language of flowers, a symbolic system that connects different blooms to emotions and concepts.

As they work together, Hannah asks CJ to identify flowers associated with various terms: "fate" relates to flax, "self-worth" corresponds with white roses, and "reconciliation" prompts a thoughtful response of "star-of-Bethlehem." Although CJ harbors skepticism about the mystical claims Hannah makes regarding their power to fulfill desires, the atmosphere is one of joyful learning and familial bonding. This apprenticeship in floral design not only imparts practical skills but also deepens CJ's understanding of the emotional significance behind each arrangement. The chapter sets the stage for exploring themes of love, connection, and the pursuit of one's

More Free Book



Scan to Download

passions within the enchanting, albeit chaotic, world of flowers and their meanings.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 2 Summary:

In the early hours of a school-staff-development day, the protagonist, CJ, finds herself reluctantly accompanying her mother on a demanding pre-dawn power walk up a steep trail. CJ is clearly unenthused and shivering in her pajamas, aware of her mother's relentless vigor and commitment to fitness. Her mother, an accomplished professional at McAllister Venture Capital, exudes a strong, motivational spirit that leaves CJ feeling pressured to adopt a similar mindset about life and her future.

As they walk, a conversation unfolds between them. CJ feels frustrated by her mother's insistence on the importance of maintaining a positive attitude and having a vision for life. CJ's mother believes that without these qualities, CJ risks stagnation in her future. Raised in a challenging socio-economic environment, Mom is determined to instill a sense of ambition in her daughter, adamantly touting the significance of proactive behavior and goal-setting.

Despite her mother's intentions, CJ resents the high expectations placed upon her. She feels inadequate in living up to the success her mother achieved, fueling her worries about disappointing her. In an attempt to assert her own interests, CJ mentions her work at Heart's Desire, a local flower shop. However, her mother dismisses this as a mere hobby and insists CJ consider a more practical internship opportunity offered by a tech executive.



To CJ, the idea of interning in a high-tech field feels laughable; she's more inclined towards creative endeavors, yet worries that expressing this will lead to further disappointment for her mother.

The tension escalates as the discussion turns to their differing perspectives on happiness and success. CJ longs for contentment rather than a relentless pursuit of accolades, while her mother views happiness as an effect of meeting challenging goals. This clash exposes the generational divide in their values and aspirations, highlighting CJ's struggle against the weight of her mother's ambitions.

As they continue the hike, observing nature around them, the dialogue shifts from motivated encouragement to a sensitive dissection of CJ's past experiences and perceived failures. CJ recalls a series of activities, from ballet to soccer, all of which ended in disappointment—not through a lack of effort but due to her feelings of inadequacy. Each experience becomes a point of contention, intensifying her internal conflict regarding her mother's aspirations for her and her own desire to forge a different path.

The chapter concludes with CJ recognizing her cycle of trying and failing, feeling worn down by the pressure to meet her mother's standards. Yet, there's a flicker of hope as she contemplates the possibility of embracing her own definition of success apart from her mother's expectations. The journey up the trail serves as a metaphor for CJ's difficult ascent toward

More Free Book



Scan to Download

self-acceptance and carving her own identity amidst the shadows of her mother's ambitions.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Critical Thinking

Key Point: Embracing Your Own Definition of Success

Critical Interpretation: As you navigate through life's challenges, take inspiration from CJ's journey up that steep trail—realizing that the path to self-acceptance may be rocky, but it is uniquely yours. Just like CJ learns to define success on her own terms, you too can break free from societal or familial expectations and pursue what resonates with your true self. Recognizing that happiness may lie not in accolades or the approval of others, but in the passion and contentment you find in your choices, empowers you to embrace your identity and aspirations. Every step you take towards understanding what makes you feel fulfilled is a step towards a life that feels authentic, allowing you to celebrate your own journey with confidence.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 3 Summary:

Chapter 3 Summary:

After a morning power walk with her mom, Ceej stops at Sweet Emily's, a beloved café known for its renowned pastries and coffee. There, she meets her best friend, Emily, who is currently on a break from work. Their conversation revolves around Ceej's mother's aspiration for her to excel in STEM—an ambition Ceej finds daunting and somewhat unrealistic. Ceej jokes about the stereotypes that come with being Asian and proficient in math, while Emily urges her to challenge those stereotypes and try harder academically.

The conversation takes a turn when they discuss Brynn Foer-Preston, a popular girl and vice president of the student body, who has a complicated history with both Ceej and Emily. Ceej harbors resentment toward Brynn due to her previous mistreatment of Emily, especially from when Emily came out in eighth grade. Brynn once led a humiliating incident involving Emily in front of their classmates, causing Ceej to despise her even more.

Despite Ceej's admonitions about Brynn's character, Emily hints at a possible rekindling of friendship with Brynn after an innocent greeting they shared in their physics class. Ceej is concerned and protective, reminding

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Emily of the hurt Brynn caused in the past. Their conversation underscores the complex dynamics of friendship, loyalty, and the ever-present cliques within their school environment.

The History of My Beef with Brynn Foer-Preston Summary:

Ceej reflects on the history behind her deep-seated animosity toward Brynn. In eighth grade, after Emily came out, Brynn pretended to be supportive but later publicly humiliated Emily in a cruel joke involving a secret Valentine's cookie Emily had given Brynn. This incident was compounded by Brynn's subsequent rejection of Emily, resulting in Ceej feeling torn but ultimately wanting to protect her friend from further emotional pain.

As the story unfolds, it becomes clear that Brynn's actions went unpunished and that the social dynamics shifted when she later came out as gay herself, seeking acceptance from the same peers who once ostracized Emily, making Ceej view her with even more disdain. With Brynn's rise to leadership in the Queer Straight Alliance, Ceej's animosity persists, highlighting the complexities of teenage friendships and the difficulty in navigating past traumas while dealing with the present.

This chapter establishes critical background and sets the stage for the intertwined relationships between Ceej, Emily, and Brynn, hinting at future

More Free Book



Scan to Download

conflicts and character developments rooted in their shared history.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 4:

In Chapter 4, we find the protagonist, CJ, in a bakery where she enjoys a brief moment of solitude with her croissant and coffee. This peace is disrupted by the arrival of Shane Morgan, a popular and accomplished water polo player from her school, known for being both athletic and academically successful. Shane embodies the ideal that many in CJ's life, including her mother and sister, fantasize about, but CJ has resigned herself to admiring him from afar, recognizing the chasm between their social standings and her crush's current relationship with the intimidating Sabrina Dang.

As Shane waits in line, CJ is struck by the stark contrast between her fantasy of a rom-com encounter and the awkwardness of real life. CJ reflects on how real-world interactions seldom align with the charming, serendipitous moments depicted in movies, leaving her feeling out of her depth. Just as she contemplates leaving to avoid any interaction, she inadvertently catches Shane's eye. To her shock, he acknowledges her by name, turning her already nervously charged moment even more surreal.

Their conversation, however, is short-lived as Brynn Foer-Preston, a former eighth-grade tormentor who has redefined herself as a relentlessly friendly individual, makes a flashy entrance. Brynn's unyielding enthusiasm aggravates CJ, who struggles to reconcile her ambivalence toward Brynn and her desire for approval from those deemed popular and successful.



Brynn's insistent friendliness threatens to draw CJ into the orbit of her social world, which CJ has long wished to escape.

The chapter peaks as Brynn reveals she's involved in a local initiative, the South Bay Queer Teens' January Mixer, and aims to post flyers in the

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Why Bookey is must have App for Book Lovers



30min Content

The deeper and clearer interpretation we provide, the better grasp of each title you have.



Text and Audio format

Absorb knowledge even in fragmented time.



Quiz

Check whether you have mastered what you just learned.



And more

Multiple Voices & fonts, Mind Map, Quotes, IdeaClips...

Free Trial with Bookey



Chapter 5 Summary:

In Chapter 5, CJ battles with conflicting emotions after a failed internship interview with Carlos, a friend of his mother. Despite his clear disinterest in data and the tech world, he fears disappointing his mother, who has high aspirations for him. When she reveals that Carlos passed on him, CJ feels a mixture of relief and guilt, knowing he may have sabotaged the interview on purpose to avoid the pressure of expectations. This results in a tense exchange between him and his mother, where CJ expresses the need for space. His mother agrees, but it's evident that she cares deeply and is strategizing a new way to encourage him.

With winter vacation approaching, CJ heads to his job at "Heart's Desire," finding solace from his mother's silent treatment, even amidst the chaos of holiday preparations and rainy weather. As he arrives in a theatrical manner, he is startled by a stranger in the backroom who turns out to be Owen Takasugi, a familiar face from the school's "Weekly History Minute." Initially frightened, CJ's anxiety turns to confusion as he learns Owen has come to work as an apprentice at the shop.

Owen, who is tall and lanky with nerdy flair—wearing a cheeky T-shirt proclaiming his love for history—introduces himself. He and CJ share an awkward moment, with CJ recognizing him from school announcements that feature quirky historical trivia. Hannah, CJ's aunt, sees an opportunity for

More Free Book



Scan to Download

her niece to connect with Owen, jokingly suggesting they should grab coffee together. This moment fills CJ with embarrassment while Owen responds with charm, revealing he is single, much to Hannah's delight. Eventually, Hannah nudges CJ to show Owen the ropes, setting the stage for their budding acquaintance as they navigate work together.

As the chapter unfolds, readers are drawn into CJ's struggles with familial expectations, the complexities of teenage relationships, and the comfort found in unexpected connections, marking a pivotal moment in his journey of self-discovery.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 6 Summary:

In Chapter 6, the protagonist finds herself managing the flower shop while also feeling a mix of insecurity and competitiveness sparked by Sabrina Dang, a popular and seemingly perfect classmate. Sabrina, the captain of the drill team and girlfriend of a well-known athlete, enters the shop looking to buy a bouquet for her boyfriend, Shane, ahead of an important water polo tournament. The protagonist is irritated by Owen's friendly interaction with Sabrina and wrestles with her feelings of envy toward her beauty and confidence.

Sabrina expresses her wish for a unique and impressive arrangement, and despite the protagonist's expertise and better suggestions, Sabrina insists on sunflowers, believing they symbolize good fortune for Shane. As they discuss the arrangement, Sabrina's perfectionist nature shows through when she starts to rearrange the bouquet the protagonist has carefully created. This leaves the protagonist feeling undervalued and frustrated, yet she tries to maintain professionalism.

After Sabrina leaves with her bouquet, Owen comments on the protagonist's visible disdain for Sabrina. The conversation shifts as Owen tries to compliment the protagonist's floral arrangement, leading to some playful banter. She grapples with acceptance of the compliment without belittling herself, showcasing her insecurities once again.



Their dialogue takes a serious turn when Owen reveals that his father has mentioned the flower shop is struggling. This revelation hits the protagonist hard, igniting embarrassment and defensiveness. While both acknowledge that the shop is going through a rough time, the protagonist feels the weight of the situation more than she'd like to admit. This acknowledgment of their financial struggles sets a somber tone for the chapter, planting seeds of worry about the future of Heart's Desire, the family business.

The interplay of gender dynamics, social status, and the protagonist's internal struggle with self-worth and professional integrity creates a rich backdrop for the motivations and complexities of the character interactions, while also hinting at the underlying challenges the shop faces.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Critical Thinking

Key Point: Embrace Your Unique Talents and Strengths

Critical Interpretation: Chapter 6 illustrates the importance of recognizing and embracing your own unique talents, even in the face of competition and insecurity. You may find yourself feeling envious of others, like the protagonist does with Sabrina, who seems perfect in every way. Yet, this chapter reminds you that your individuality and expertise bring value to your work and relationships. It encourages you to focus on your own strengths, whether it's your creativity in crafting floral arrangements or any other skill you possess. Instead of comparing yourself to others, let their success inspire you to shine in your own way, forging ahead with confidence and pride in what makes you who you are.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 7 Summary:

Chapter 7 Summary

Hannah, who has played a pivotal role in raising the narrator, CJ, faces complications with their mother regarding the family business, Heart's Desire. After bringing home a feast of Thai food—Mom's favorite—Hannah explains that the business isn't doing as well as expected after the holiday season. Although CJ initially believes she is helping by offering her assistance at the shop, it becomes clear that Hannah is struggling financially and is unable to afford an assistant. Mom, who has always set high standards, expresses her skepticism about Hannah's optimism regarding turning the business around, causing tension at the dinner table.

The conversation escalates as Mom asserts that Heart's Desire is losing money, revealing that she has been covering the shortfall for a long time. Hannah suggests seeking financial support from McAllister VC, which immediately triggers frustration for Mom, who believes the past grievances between the Katsuyama family and the McAllisters should be left behind. The discussion shifts further into conflict, with CJ urgently trying to mediate and resolve the estrangement between her mother and aunt, urging them to focus on practical solutions instead.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Eventually, the argument subsides, leading to a slight moment of understanding between Mom and Hannah, though the underlying issues regarding the shop's viability remain unresolved. Despite the tension, CJ decides to support Hannah, recognizing Heart's Desire's importance not only to her aunt but also to her own identity as the family legacy starts to weigh on her.

Chapter 8 Summary: The History of the Katsuyama Family, Part I

The narrative shifts to recount the history of the Katsuyama family, particularly focusing on their lineage and business struggles. It begins in 1890 with great-grandfather Ippei Katsuyama's immigration to California and his establishment as a laborer and family man. He eventually sees two of his sons start the Katsuyama Brothers Seed Company, signaling the family's entrepreneurial spirit.

Fast forward to 1938, when Toshio, Ippei's son, transforms the family legacy by opening Heart's Desire, a flower shop that embodies family connection and community. However, this burgeoning success is abruptly overshadowed by the events of World War II. Following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, the family is subjected to racism and discrimination, evidenced by graffiti targeting them and subsequent hardships faced by their sons, one of whom gets suspended for retaliating against bullies.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

As the war escalates, President Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 displaces Japanese Americans, compelling Toshio to make a heartbreaking decision—sell his beloved business to a member of the McAllister family for a fraction of its worth, forced by circumstances beyond his control. This act symbolizes the deep injustices faced by the Katsuyama family and sets the stage for the struggles they will continue to encounter, culminating in Hannah's current challenges with Heart's Desire.

Together, these chapters illustrate the complex dynamics of the Katsuyama family, highlighting themes of resilience, generational struggle, and the weight of legacy as they navigate both personal and collective challenges.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 8:

Chapter 8 Summary

The chapter opens on a somber Monday afternoon for the protagonist, CJ, following a financial ultimatum from her mother about their struggling family flower shop, Heart's Desire. To cope, CJ is creating a floral arrangement for a customer who recently suffered a miscarriage. Her best friend, Hannah, suggests using succulents, specifically an aloe plant that symbolizes solace. This hits home, as CJ wishes floral magic could alleviate their financial woes, humorously contemplating the jade plant's reputed ability to attract wealth.

As she prepares the arrangement, Hannah is busy with a potential wedding client, leaving CJ to work when friends Emily and Aviana arrive with day-old snickerdoodles, her favorite cookies. Their cheerful presence brightens her day, and they tease CJ about her connection with Owen, a new employee who just returned from a delivery. This playful banter serves as a lighthearted distraction from CJ's stress.

Owen enters wearing a humorous T-shirt, immediately charming Emily and Aviana, who begin to admire him. CJ rolls her eyes but secretly enjoys Owen's presence. As they chat, Owen expresses his enthusiasm for the job,



and they discuss the symbolism of the plants CJ is using in her arrangement, including a juniper for "hope in adversity." This becomes poignant as they delve into CJ's family financial struggles.

The conversation shifts when Hannah returns with exciting news: she may have scored a big wedding client, which could help alleviate their financial crisis. CJ suggests leveraging this opportunity by offering a discount on flowers in exchange for ad space in a magazine associated with her potential client. Owen contributes another idea for advertising, suggesting a sale to draw in new customers.

Hannah is thrilled with the plan, and they all engage in a whimsical celebration of their newfound hope for financial stability. Owen tries to rally enthusiasm for the jade plants, though CJ resists, maintaining her practical demeanor. As another customer enters, Owen playfully departs, leaving CJ with Hannah, who watches her with a knowing smile. CJ is aware of Hannah's romantic inclinations regarding Owen but humorously dismisses the idea.

Chapter 9 Summary

[Not provided in the prompt, therefore not summarized here.]

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Overall, these chapters explore themes of friendship, hope in adversity, and the desire for financial stability, intertwined with playful interactions that hint at potential romantic developments. CJ's journey reflects her struggle to balance personal feelings in the face of family obligations and economic challenges, while Owen's character offers a touch of levity and charm amidst the difficulties.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Positive feedback

Sara Scholz

...tes after each book summary
...erstanding but also make the
...and engaging. Bookey has
...ling for me.

Fantastic!!!



I'm amazed by the variety of books and languages Bookey supports. It's not just an app, it's a gateway to global knowledge. Plus, earning points for charity is a big plus!

Masood El Toure

Fi



Ab
bo
to
my

José Botín

...ding habit
...o's design
...ual growth

Love it!



Bookey offers me time to go through the important parts of a book. It also gives me enough idea whether or not I should purchase the whole book version or not! It is easy to use!

Wonnie Tappkx

Time saver!



Bookey is my go-to app for summaries are concise, ins curated. It's like having acc right at my fingertips!

Awesome app!



I love audiobooks but don't always have time to listen to the entire book! bookey allows me to get a summary of the highlights of the book I'm interested in!!! What a great concept !!!highly recommended!

Rahul Malviya

Beautiful App



This app is a lifesaver for book lovers with busy schedules. The summaries are spot on, and the mind maps help reinforce wh I've learned. Highly recommend!

Alex Walk

Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 9 Summary:

Chapter 9 Summary

In this chapter, we see CJ's internal dialogue as she navigates high school relationships and friendships. During video announcements, CJ is infatuated with Shane, a water polo player, who makes a charming promotion for a pizza booth. She texts her friend Emily, confessing her attraction. Emily, though skeptical at first, acknowledges Shane's appeal, but their conversation soon shifts to the upcoming LGBTQ+ mixer that Brynn, a former adversary of Emily's, is organizing.

Despite past tensions with Brynn, CJ has encouraged Emily to attend mixers to connect with the LGBTQ+ community. Emily eventually agrees to go, but CJ worries about the implications of Brynn's involvement. Their conversation reveals an undercurrent of possible change; Emily admits that Brynn has been different lately and their interactions have improved since they have become lab partners. CJ feels uneasy about Emily's shifting loyalties and struggles to reconcile her loyalty to their friendship with Emily's budding friendship with Brynn.

At lunch, CJ faces a surprising turn of events when Shane, no longer shirtless, asks for her phone number, indicating an interest in hanging out.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

CJ is ecstatic but also reflective. Afterward, she discusses the situation with Emily, who is becoming more open to Brynn. This leads CJ to consider whether people really can change, illustrating her skepticism with a historical reference to George Washington, who, despite claiming to change, remained a slave owner.

The chapter ends with a sense of tension and uncertainty in CJ's friendship with Emily, and her worries about their relationship dynamics are palpable. CJ wrestles with change, loyalty, and the complexities of young love—both her feelings for Shane and Emily's evolving rapport with Brynn.

Chapter 10 Summary

In this chapter, CJ reflects on her romantic experiences through a humorous lens, detailing the lessons learned from various crushes and relationships throughout her life. She recounts her childhood crushes, starting with playful school friendships that never translated into anything serious. From her first crush, a sweet but fleeting infatuation, to her more complex feelings during middle school, she realizes that attraction and actual depth of connection don't always correlate.

CJ narrates her journey through her teenage years, illustrating the contrast between the excitement of new experiences and the underlying confusion of

More Free Book



Scan to Download

what love truly means. Her crush on Andy, best friend Emily's cousin, marks a turning point as they share numerous enjoyable moments, including humorous and awkward attempts at intimacy that end up feeling underwhelming. Despite enjoying their time together, CJ grapples with her incapacity to feel fully in love, leading her to question whether her relationship is genuinely significant or simply a joyful distraction.

As CJ navigates her feelings about love and intimacy, the chapter reveals her insecurities about romantic relationships and her deepening self-awareness. She acknowledges the thrill and pitfalls of her budding sexuality while subtly expressing a desire for a profound emotional connection that eludes her throughout these formative experiences. This reflection highlights her growth as a character, emphasizing the complexity of young love as she questions her own desires and expectations.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 10 Summary:

In Chapter 10, the focus revolves around the preparations for a significant anniversary sale at the flower shop, spearheaded by Hannah, a driven and creative character who envisions a 1970s-themed kickoff party. As she negotiates with caterers, another character, Owen, manages customer interactions while the narrator works at the demonstration table on an elaborate floral arrangement for a couple's twenty-fifth anniversary celebration.

The arrangement itself is a mesmerizing combination of red chrysanthemums, pricey out-of-season peonies, and various branches, crafted to convey myriad messages such as longevity, good fortune, and fidelity. The narrator finds pride and anxiety in contributing to this delicate piece, revealing her strong attachment to the work, as it also represents Hannah's guidance.

Amidst floral craftsmanship, an exploration of personal beliefs about love unfolds between the narrator and Owen, who has a casual yet charming demeanor reminiscent of popular K-pop stars. Owen is enchanted by the romance of long-lasting love, while the narrator remains skeptical, shaped by her mother's unconventional romantic history and her unique upbringing. She expresses doubt about the authenticity of many long-term relationships, hinting at a deeper, more jaded view than that of Owen, who remains

More Free Book



Scan to Download

optimistic about love due to his parents' rocky yet resilient marriage.

Their banter highlights contrasting views on romance, with Owen embodying a hopeful outlook and the narrator standing firm in her skepticism, shaped by her familial experiences. This exchange showcases not only Owen's charm but also the narrator's layered understanding of love and relationships, complicating her feelings as she navigates her own desires amidst the romantic ideals presented. As the chapter concludes, the reader sees a budding chemistry between them, hinting that perhaps Owen's idealism might challenge the narrator's protective walls surrounding love.

In the following chapter, the character development deepens as the dynamics of their conversation lay the groundwork for potential romantic entanglements and the exploration of true love's complexities, especially as it relates to their individual pasts and beliefs about relationships.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Critical Thinking

Key Point: The exploration of personal beliefs about love and relationships

Critical Interpretation: This chapter elegantly illustrates how our individual experiences shape our perceptions of love. By engaging in meaningful dialogue with Owen, you find yourself reflecting on your own beliefs about relationships—both the enchantment of love and the skepticism that can arise from past experiences. This exploration invites you to reconsider your stance on romance, opening your heart to the complexities of love rather than closing it off. Just like Hannah creates a beautiful floral arrangement that intertwines different elements, you too can blend your past and present feelings, realizing that while love can be fraught with challenges, it also holds the potential for profound happiness and connection.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 11 Summary:

In Chapter 11, the protagonist becomes increasingly aware that something is amiss with her mother. While seeking help with her Algebra II homework, she overhears her mom on the phone, speaking in a hushed, serious tone about a secret that she seems hesitant to share. The mother quickly shifts her demeanor when her child enters—a common sign of evasiveness. It becomes clear that the conversation was not about work, as Mom claims, but likely of a more personal nature.

After her mother dismisses the call as trivial, the protagonist's curiosity deepens, particularly when she realizes the call was from Trey McAllister, a local who avails his services at the family-run business, Heart's Desire. This leads her to consider the possibility of an affair. Sensing her mother's secrecy, she confides in her sister Hannah, whispering about her suspicions. Hannah, initially nonchalant, questions whether their mother could simply be preparing to share news, perhaps indicating a change in her personal life.

The conversation between the sisters shifts to a mix of concern and humor as they note Hannah's disdain for the McAllister family. While Hannah reflects on the potential implications of their mother dating Trey, they entertain the fantasy of wealth that might come with a marriage between their mother and him, as he is seen as a wealthy local. Despite the levity, the underlying tension remains, as the sisters recognize that they must ultimately await their

More Free Book



Scan to Download

mother's decision to reveal whatever secrets she holds.

Hannah offers a pragmatic sentiment that their mother will disclose the truth in her own time, prompting the sisters to shift focus to their own secrets, hinting at a shared venture that might cause a stir for their mom. This chapter effectively illustrates the complexities of familial relationships through a mix of curiosity, concern, and the inevitable anticipation of change.

| Key Points | Details |
|---------------------------|--|
| Protagonist's Awareness | The protagonist notices something is wrong with her mother. |
| Phone Conversation | Overhears her mother on the phone, serious and secretive; suggests personal issues. |
| Mediation Shifts | Mother changes demeanor when the protagonist enters, indicating evasion. |
| Call from Trey McAllister | The call is from Trey, linked to the family business, triggering suspicion of an affair. |
| Sisterly Confidences | Protagonist shares her suspicions with sister Hannah, who is initially dismissive. |
| Hannah's Views | Hannah is critical of the McAllisters and considers the implications of their mother dating. |
| Wealth Fantasy | Sisters humorously discuss the potential wealth if their mother marries Trey. |
| Underlying Tension | Despite humor, tension persists as they await their mother's revelations. |

More Free Book



Scan to Download

| Key Points | Details |
|---------------------|--|
| Pragmatic Sentiment | Hannah expresses that their mother will disclose the truth when ready. |
| Shift in Focus | Sisters hint at their own secrets, indicating another complex dynamic. |

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 12:

Chapter 12 Summary

As rain drenches California, the dreary weather confines high school students like Ceej, Emily (Em), and Aviana to cramped corners of their campus, forcing them to contemplate the upcoming OUTlet LGBTQ+ mixer. Em is apprehensive about the event, concerned about embarrassing herself, which prompts a discussion about social anxiety. Ceej reassures her, though she herself is filled with a sense of unease when alone in social situations. Their talk shifts from worries about the mixer to Ceej's complex feelings for Shane, a boy she has developed an infatuation with, complicated by his recent silence since they shared pizza.

Despite her attempts to convince herself that she has moved on from Shane, Ceej finds herself torn between hope and reality. When Shane unexpectedly approaches her, their playful exchange ignites a spark of flirtation that leaves Ceej exhilarated. His lighthearted texts further heighten her emotions, propelling her into a swirling mix of excitement and self-doubt as she navigates her burgeoning crush.

Meanwhile, Ceej's friends remind her that love and attraction can be complicated. They jest about her apparent interest in another boy, Owen,

More Free Book



Scan to Download

although Ceej deflects their teasing claims. As the chapter closes, Ceej finds herself preoccupied with her feelings, grounding them in the context of teenage experiences and the complications of romantic relationships.

Chapter 13 Summary

In stark contrast to her social dilemmas, Ceej grapples with a more serious issue: she finds herself anxiously awaiting her period, which is now several days late, triggering a wave of anxiety and paranoia about potential pregnancy. Despite her attempts to rationalize the delay by attributing it to bodily fluctuations common to teenagers, the fear of unintended consequences weighs heavily on her mind.

As the days drag on, Ceej's anxiety morphs into a crushing internal battle, bombarded by relentless "what-if" scenarios. Should she have been more careful? What would it mean if she were pregnant? These thoughts torment her, altering her mood and interactions, especially with her boyfriend, Andy. Despite her fears, she keeps her turmoil a secret, convincing herself it's likely nothing and attempting to maintain a facade of normalcy.

After two long weeks, a wave of nausea forces her to confront her reality. Compelled by a newfound urgency, Ceej decides to take charge of her situation by procuring a pregnancy test. The act becomes her means of reclaiming control, but as she waits for the result, she feels trapped between

More Free Book



Scan to Download

anxiety and denial. Despite her hopes, the stark reality of a blue plus sign solidifies her worst fears—she is pregnant. This revelation sets the stage for a dramatic shift in her life, diving deep into the themes of responsibility, fear, and the challenges of young adulthood.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Read, Share, Empower

Finish Your Reading Challenge, Donate Books to African Children.

The Concept



This book donation activity is rolling out together with Books For Africa. We release this project because we share the same belief as BFA: For many children in Africa, the gift of books truly is a gift of hope.

The Rule



Earn 100 points



Redeem a book



Donate to Africa

Your learning not only brings knowledge but also allows you to earn points for charitable causes! For every 100 points you earn, a book will be donated to Africa.

Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 13 Summary:

Chapter 13 Summary

The chapter opens with Ceej, Hannah, and their mother engaged in a tense discussion over the potential sale of their family business, Heart's Desire. Hannah is set on organizing a sale-slash-party for their flower shop and hopes to impress their mother with the success. However, their plans unravel when their mother, still dressed in her work suit, demands clarity after hearing about their plans through mutual connections.

As the conversation unfolds around the kitchen table, Hannah passionately tries to convince their mother of the value of Heart's Desire, emphasizing its significance as more than just a business but a legacy filled with family memories and hard work. Ceej feels the weight of the discussion, realizing how much Heart's Desire means to her personally, as it anchors her identity. The tension escalates when their mother reveals that she's been considering selling the shop for three million dollars. This shocking offer leaves both daughters reeling, especially Hannah, who believes that family ties and memories should outweigh financial gain.

Ceej feels caught in a painful conflict as their mother, cold and pragmatic, seems leery of Hannah's emotional investment in Heart's Desire. The debate

More Free Book



Scan to Download

turns heated, with Hannah accusing their mother of betrayal regarding their father's memory, contrasting her mother's focus on financial security. The intensity reaches its peak when Hannah storms out of the room, tears streaming down her face, unable to reconcile her mother's stance with her own attachment to the family legacy.

In the aftermath, Ceej attempts to assert the importance of the shop to their mother, voicing her own connection to Heart's Desire and illustrating how vital it is to their family's history. However, their mother dismisses the emotional arguments and prioritizes a pragmatic view of their future, leaving Ceej frustrated as she processes the family dynamic unraveling before her eyes.

The chapter closes with Ceej wrestling with the harsh realities of their family conflict and the personal implications of possibly losing Heart's Desire, which for her symbolizes not just a business but a sense of identity and belonging.

The History of the Katsuyama Family, Part II Summary

This brief historical segment offers essential background on the Katsuyama family's challenges and triumphs, tracing their journey from hardship to resilience. It begins in November 1945, when Toshio and Mary Katsuyama, along with their son Frank, return to San Jose after being interned during

More Free Book



Scan to Download

World War II. Their difficult road includes an attempted buyback of their flower shop from the unyielding Robert McAllister.

Fast-forwarding to June 1973, the family perseveres through years of labor and finally reacquires the shop, demonstrating the Katsuyama tenacity against adversity. By Spring 2000, Frank's daughter, Mimi (now the mother of Ceej), achieves a significant milestone by earning a prestigious scholarship for her MBA, albeit at a cost that creates contention within the family.

Events take a tragic turn in June 2002 when Mimi's career path with McAllister Venture Capital causes a rift, leading to family strife, especially in the wake of Frank's declining health and eventual death. This series of events shapes the family's current circumstances, leaving Hannah to take over Heart's Desire while Mimi climbs the corporate ladder, further complicating the sense of loyalty and betrayal in their familial bonds. Ceej is caught in the complex web of pride and disappointment regarding her mother's choices and the legacy they share, setting the stage for the ongoing family conflict surrounding Heart's Desire.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 14 Summary:

In Chapter 14, Hannah is unusually irritable at work, taking her frustration out on Owen and the wedding arrangements they are preparing for an upcoming wedding. As she assembles bouquets of blue hydrangeas, she mutters about the bride's choice of flowers, particularly larkspur, which she associates with bad omens. Hannah's alarming demeanor contrasts sharply with her delicate handling of the flowers, revealing her inner turmoil. This stress is linked to her concerns over the potential closure of Heart's Desire, the flower shop she runs with CJ, who is grappling with the implications of his mother's decision to sell the business.

Their conversation together reflects a deep anxiety about the store's future, especially with Hannah alluding to CJ's mother's stubbornness and the threat that the McAllister family poses to their livelihood. The tension eases when Richard, the sweet albeit desperate man for whom they made a boutonniere for a previous date, enters to pick up a new floral arrangement. Hannah, a beacon of optimism, encourages resilience in love, countering CJ's cynical views on relationships. Their playful banter underscores the emotional stakes involved, as CJ feels the weight of his mother's impending decision on their lives and the shop.

When their friend Emily arrives and reveals she needs to leave to help another friend in labor, she inadvertently invites discussion about the



ominous plan Hannah and CJ are contemplating regarding the McAllister family's attempts to take over Heart's Desire. This mention evokes memories of past grievances and ignites their shared resolve to find a way to protect their family's legacy. Emily's outrage at the named school after a family that wronged them further solidifies their bond as they brainstorm strategies, aware that time is running out. Hannah expresses concern that they may need a plan more concrete than their anniversary sale to safeguard their store, leaving CJ with a gnawing sense of dread about the future.

In this chapter, themes of resilience in the face of adversity and the complexities of relationships—both familial and romantic—come to a head, setting the stage for upcoming challenges as they navigate both personal and professional turmoil. The stakes are high, and the pressure is mounting, as the characters confront not only external threats but also their internal fears about love and loss.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Critical Thinking

Key Point: Resilience in the Face of Adversity

Critical Interpretation: As you navigate through life's challenges, remember the importance of resilience, just like Hannah's determination to save Heart's Desire despite the overwhelming pressure. This chapter reminds you that even when frustration and fear cloud your vision, holding onto hope and actively seeking solutions can empower you to combat the obstacles life throws your way. Embrace your inner strength, knowing that setbacks are part of the journey, and inspire yourself to keep pushing forward, much like Hannah's unwavering belief in love and community.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 15 Summary:

In Chapter 15, after Emily leaves to babysit, Owen returns from his deliveries just as a crisis unfolds at Hannah's flower shop. Hannah frantically searches for the Monterey pine cones, essential for the wedding reception cake table, which Owen seems to have misplaced. Their conversation reveals the significance of these cones—tied to a memorable moment between the groom and bride. Hannah's insistence on using the specific pine cones highlights her devotion to the rituals of flower magic, a mystical belief system that enhances the floral arrangements' power.

Despite Owen's suggestion to use substitute pine cones they have in stock, Hannah is adamant that using anything else would compromise the magic. In a moment of desperation, she devises a plan for Owen and CJ to sneak onto the Los Altos Country Club golf course to collect the necessary pine cones, despite the risks involved, including possible arrest if caught. The tension escalates as she assures them they have a friend on the board, Lewis, who could help them if needed.

As Owen and CJ embark on their reckless mission—the "Operation Monterey Pine"—they face a series of challenges that exemplify the comedic, high-stakes nature of their quest. Climbing the trees to gather pine cones, they are startled by approaching security, leading to a frantic escape through the golf course while carrying a cumbersome ladder. Amidst the



chaos, Owen nearly falls, and the duo struggles with the demands of evasion, all while second-guessing their poor decision to follow Hannah's dubious plan.

Their escape is fraught with challenges, culminating in a tense chase that showcases their differing abilities and coordination. Ultimately, after a series of close calls, Owen helps CJ free herself from a snagged backpack just as the security guards close in. They manage to scramble into the van and speed away, breathless and alive, relieved to have succeeded against the odds set by Hannah's relentless adherence to flower magic.

As the next chapter begins, the consequences of their escapade and the challenges still to come are hinted at, setting the stage for further developments in their adventure.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 16:

In Chapter 16, Owen and the narrator find themselves in a secluded alley after a risky escapade that involved stealing items. As they catch their breath, they share a moment of relief, joking and reflecting on their teamwork during the tense situation. The adrenaline from their narrow escape fuels a flirtation between them, causing the narrator to grapple with unexpected feelings towards Owen. Their playful banter reveals both their camaraderie and the developing tension beneath the surface.

As they settle into conversation, Owen shifts the topic to Hannah, the narrator's mother, speculating about her flower-selling business and how she could be more resourceful. This leads the narrator to reveal her mother's troubling news: the potential sale of their family business, Heart's Desire, to McAllister Venture Capital, a wealthy and powerful company linked to a key figure who exemplifies the challenges their family faces. Owen's instinctive response to join the fight for their business reflects his loyalty and determination to support the narrator.

The narrator wrestles with her mother's wish to keep the matter quiet. However, inspired by her mother's mentorship of women and the importance of taking control of their narrative, they devise a plan to expose the situation publicly. They brainstorm the narrative's focus: the injustices stemming from the McAllister family's history and the impact it has on their



lives. Energized by their scheme, Hannah enthusiastically supports the idea, acknowledging its potential to generate attention and support for their cause.

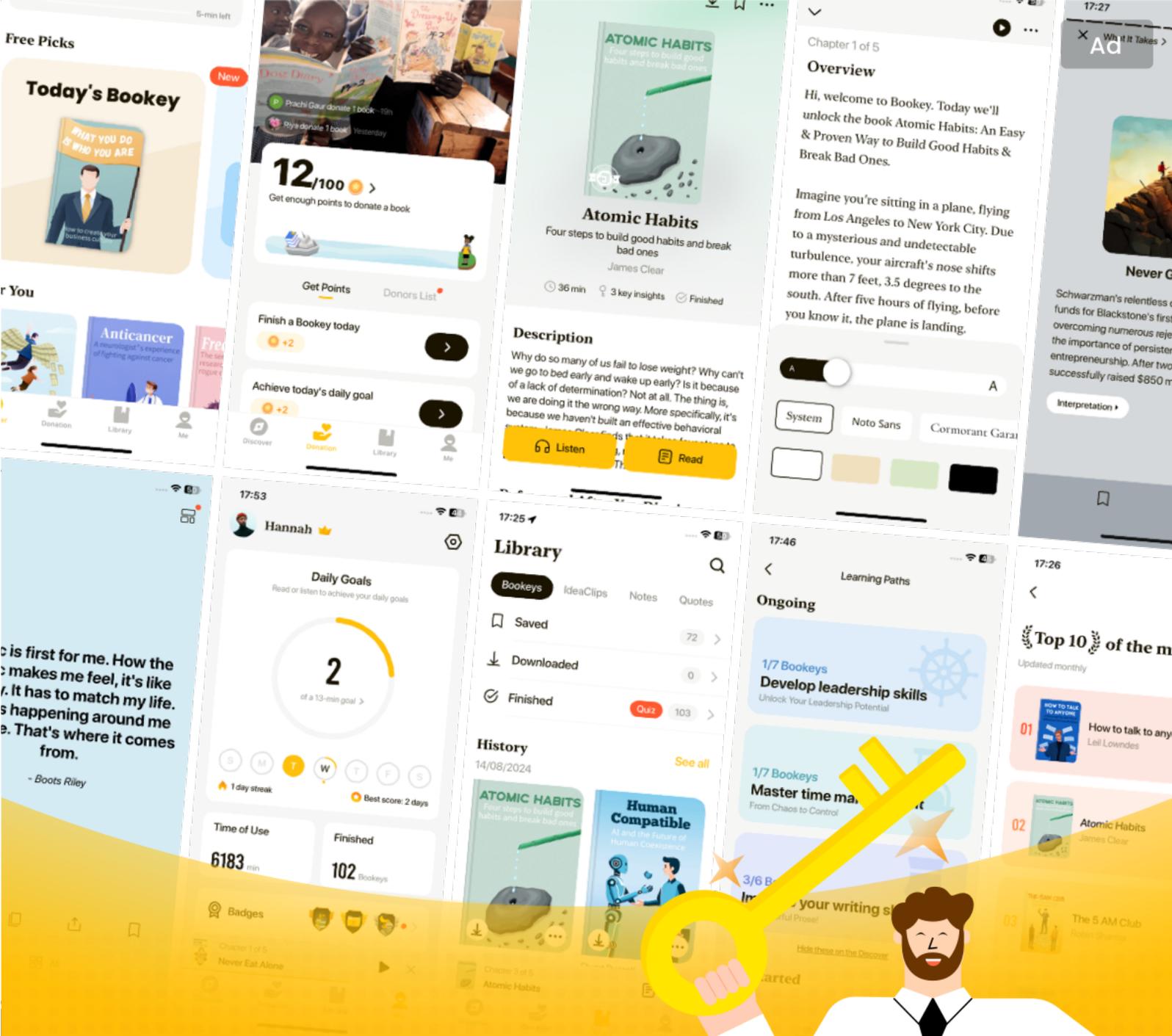
As they draft an email to a journalist at the Mercury News, the narrator feels conflicted about proceeding against her mother's wishes. Nonetheless, she resolves to act, recognizing that they must take a stand against the unjust circumstances surrounding their family business. In an empowering moment, they decide to send the email, marking a pivotal turn in their fight for Heart's Desire.

Chapter 17 picks up from this decision, likely exploring the repercussions of their actions and their unfolding struggle against the powerful McAllisters, further delving into themes of community, justice, and personal growth.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





World' best ideas unlock your potential

Free Trial with Bookey



Scan to download



Chapter 17 Summary:

In Chapter 17, the atmosphere at home has become tense due to what mom labels her "contingency plan," leading to a strained dynamic between Mom and Hannah, who have decided to avoid open conflict in front of the narrator. The narrator feels the weight of their stress while trying to maintain optimism about their uncertain community project after a lackluster response from potential sponsors.

Despite this turmoil, the narrator looks forward to the OUTlet mixer, where they intend to support their friend Emily in finding connections. With some thoughtful preparation, the narrator gifts Emily a silver locket containing dried petals symbolizing various qualities to bring her confidence and charm during the event. Upon arrival, Emily nervously fidgets with her outfit, while the narrator reassures her about looking great.

At the mixer, Emily encounters Brynn, an old acquaintance, whose arrival brings both excitement and tension. Brynn compliments Emily, but the interaction is layered with underlying rivalry and confusion, as Brynn's demeanor complicates Emily's feelings. The narrator attempts to bolster Emily's confidence and steer her clear of Brynn, whom they perceive as toxic.

As the event progresses, the narrator talks to Fiona, a lively girl they think



would be a good match for Emily. When the narrator steps away to grab snacks, they overhear an unsettling situation where Brynn inserts herself into Emily's conversation, reigniting feelings of protectiveness for Emily. Successfully, the narrator retrieves Emily and Fiona, happy to keep Brynn at bay.

On the way home, there's a celebratory sense of accomplishment as Emily acknowledges feeling a connection with potential new friends and reflects on the importance of being surrounded by other queer youth. The conversation turns playful as the narrator pushes for Emily to pursue Fiona for her potential as a partner, though Emily remains uncertain about Brynn's interest in her.

Back at home, as Emily drifts off to sleep on the air mattress, the narrator is left pondering a new uncertainty: who Owen is interested in. The chapter closes with the narrator grappling with an unexpected and confusing attraction towards him while quickly dismissing it, feeling that it complicates their friendship.

In Chapter 18, the continued development of the narrator's relationship with Emily unfolds alongside their growing introspection about their feelings for Owen. As both friends navigate their identities and interactions with others,

More Free Book



Scan to Download

tensions arise from unspoken attractions and past connections, setting the stage for deeper emotional exploration and the potential for growth in their relationships.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 18 Summary:

In Chapter 18, CJ grapples with her feelings about her crush, Shane, and her best friend Emily's growing relationship with Fiona. While Emily enthusiastically recounts her blossoming romance, CJ feels a mix of excitement and anxiety regarding her own romantic prospects. Although she and Shane have started texting, CJ has yet to transition their connection into real-life meetings. She appreciates the cushion of texting, which allows her to craft perfect responses without the pressure of face-to-face interactions.

Over pizza with Emily and Owen, the conversation drifts toward Emily's newfound confidence, attributed to a mystical locket she believes is enhancing her charm. Emily proposes expanding this concept into a small business on Etsy, a popular online marketplace, which catches CJ's interest. As they brainstorm, CJ starts to consider creating flower arrangements, potentially for events like Valentine's Day or prom. Despite the creative spark, CJ worries about making money to save Heart's Desire, the floral shop they all care for.

When the topic of Shane arises, CJ feels exposed and embarrassed, particularly in front of Owen, who teases her about her texting streak with Shane. CJ wrestles with her insecurities, especially when it comes to her appearance and how it fits into her self-image and her expectations of Shane's interest. Owen unintentionally dims her enthusiasm by implying

More Free Book



Scan to Download

that Shane may see her as only pretty rather than recognizing her many qualities. This provokes defensiveness in CJ, revealing her hidden desire for validation that goes beyond looks.

Their conversation shifts to the complicated dynamics surrounding Brynn, a peer who had acted hurtfully towards Emily in the past but has recently come out as gay and become more visible in their social circle. Owen suggests CJ's judgments may be too severe, pointing out the struggles Brynn might have faced and advocating for a more forgiving perspective. However, CJ stands her ground, insisting that past actions should not be overlooked just because someone's circumstances have changed.

This exchange raises the stakes in their friendship, as Owen's viewpoint contrasts sharply with CJ's, revealing deeper complexities in how they approach relationships and accountability. CJ's passionate stance highlights her determination to protect Emily from potential harm, while Owen's call for understanding emphasizes the complications surrounding identity and acceptance. The chapter closes with CJ feeling a mix of frustration and revelation as she navigates her friendships, her budding ambitions, and the harsh realities of love and betrayal.

Through these interactions, the chapter effectively lays the groundwork for exploring how themes of loyalty, forgiveness, and self-acceptance can impact friendships, romances, and personal identity in the following

More Free Book



Scan to Download

chapters.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 19 Summary:

Chapter 19 Summary

In this chapter, CJ grapples with the complexities of family loyalty versus financial wisdom as they consider how to manage Heart's Desire, a family business. CJ believes that the right thing is to support her sister Hannah in making the business succeed, while their mother insists on making the practical choice of selling the property. CJ reflects on their different values—her mother prioritizes smart decisions, contrasting with Hannah's desire for emotional fulfillment.

While working at the flower shop, CJ meets Blake, a cheerful boy about six years old, accompanied by his glamorous mother, Mrs. Ohara. Their lively interaction, filled with compliments about Blake and a birthday arrangement for his father, hints at Mrs. Ohara's affluent lifestyle. CJ wonders if they could attract more customers like her, which might persuade her mother to give Hannah's vision for the shop a chance.

As CJ and Owen tend to the shop, a significant moment arises when Owen points out Blake's resemblance to CJ, particularly their dimples and cleft chins. This prompts CJ to reflect deeply on her identity and the absence of her father, a subject she feels exhausted by. Despite their friendly banter,

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Owen's concern reveals the undercurrents of CJ's struggle with her biracial background and her family's history of single parenthood.

CJ feels overwhelmed by Owen's questions and comments about potential connections to her father, which she firmly brushes off. She reminisces about the difficulty of growing up without knowing her dad, her mother's explanations, and the fabricated stories she and her sister told about who he might be. CJ realizes that while she doesn't need a father to be happy, the uncertainty surrounding her identity lingers painfully.

They end their conversation with Owen expressing his desire for happy endings for everyone, while CJ acknowledges her family—her mother and sister—has been enough for her. The chapter encapsulates themes of family dynamics, the search for identity, and the emotional battles tied to belonging.

Chapter 20 Summary

In a brief overview, the subsequent chapter can delve into CJ's understanding of her childhood, revealing further reflections on her early experiences regarding the absence of her father. The narrative could explore her youthful misconceptions around relationships and family, illustrating how her mother guided her through her questions about her origins.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

At life stages from five to ten years old, CJ's inquiries about her father paint a poignant picture of a child who feels the gap of a paternal figure in their life. Each milestone—Emily's announcement of her brother to the discomfort of learning how babies are made—serves to deepen CJ's understanding of love and family units.

CJ's mother's dismissive yet caring responses underline her determination to raise her children with love, despite the void left by CJ's father. This foundation sets the stage for CJ's ongoing conflicts with identity and societal expectations, culminating in her realization that family, although unconventional, can still represent wholeness and contentment.

As these layers of CJ's backstory are revealed, it strengthens the emotional depth and complexity of her character, paving the way for her present struggles and interactions with Owen and Hannah as she seeks to define her sense of belonging amidst uncertainty.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 20:

In this chapter, the protagonist, CJ, grapples with the painful reality of her father's absence in her life. Having accepted that her father doesn't love her and is likely unaware of her existence, she fantasizes about discovering his identity, a longing amplified by her friend Owen's insistence that there could be a happy ending. Despite her desire to know him, CJ feels that asking her mother, who has always avoided the topic, is futile.

As Owen urges her to confront her mother, CJ contemplates a risky conversation that she has avoided for too long. After work, she gathers the courage to approach her mother, seeking answers about her father. She initiates the conversation in a roundabout way, referencing a past experience with sushi to ease into the topic. However, when she directly asks about her father, her mother's response shatters CJ's expectations: she doesn't know who he is.

CJ's initial shock turns to anger as her mother explains that, during a difficult period in her life, she acted irresponsibly and never obtained any identifying information about the man. This revelation feels like a cannonball—a heavy blow that leaves CJ grappling with grief and disappointment. She confronts her mother about her lack of judgment, recognizing the painful irony that she, as the result of a reckless moment, has been pushed to meet high expectations.



Their exchange becomes increasingly strained as emotions simmer: CJ's hurtful memories of being chastised by her mother resurface, and she wishes for a clearer resolution to her identity. Ultimately, CJ finds herself caught between love and resentment for her mother, whose careless past has shaped their present. The chapter concludes on an emotionally charged note, with CJ feeling the weight of unresolved grief and the complexities of their relationship, as well as the painful acceptance that she may never fully understand her father or her place within her family.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey



Ad



Try Bookey App to read 1000+ summary of world best books

Unlock 1000+ Titles, 80+ Topics

New titles added every week

- Brand
- Leadership & Collaboration
- Time Management
- Relationship & Communication
- Business Strategy
- Creativity
- Public
- Money & Investing
- Know Yourself
- Positive Psychology
- Entrepreneurship
- World History
- Parent-Child Communication
- Self-care
- Mind & Spirituality

Insights of world best books



Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 21 Summary:

In Chapter 21, the protagonist finds herself in the midst of busy wedding preparations, receiving an unexpected visit from Geoffrey Acosta, a media representative from the Merc, who aims to showcase the flower shop's community spirit through an article. While Hannah eagerly anticipates that the coverage will lead to increased awareness and fundraising opportunities, the protagonist feels overwhelmed and a bit resentful about their back-to-back wedding commitments, especially as they interfere with her time with Shane, who has texted about joining him for cake at a local bakery.

Amidst the flower arrangements for the Feda-Chan wedding, the protagonist reflects on family history and her personal feelings about her mother and father, expressing frustration over her father's absence. As they work, Geoffrey and Keila, a photographer, arrive to document the flowery chaos and hear stories of the shop's heritage, inadvertently provoking a discussion about a local school named after a controversial figure, deepening their intrigue for what Geoffrey has discovered that day.

As the florist duo readies their creations, Emily, a friend, visits to trade cookies for floral petals, enhancing the sense of camaraderie and light-heartedness. Emily shares her excitement about a date later that day, which prompts a moment of joy and rekindled friendship between her and

More Free Book



Scan to Download

the protagonist. With warm wishes and “flower magic,” Emily leaves, a reminder of normalcy against the backdrop of wedding chaos.

Later, the protagonists finalize the wedding decorations at the opulent mansion owned by a successful software entrepreneur. The atmosphere is vibrant and filled with hope as they witness the bride and her party, making the protagonist and her companion Owen reflect on the fleeting nature of love and marriage. As they share a moment, their banter hints at a budding chemistry, complicating her feelings towards Owen.

After the wedding setup is complete, Owen invites the protagonist to enjoy a sunset at Pigeon Point Lighthouse, a trip she reluctantly accepts due to her love for sunsets. This invitation suggests the possibility of a nurturing bond developing between them, hinting at a romance simmering beneath the surface while the pressures of their current circumstances linger.

Thus, Chapter 21 encapsulates themes of community, hope, nostalgia, and the budding emotions between friends amidst the hustle of preparing for a momentous occasion.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 22 Summary:

Chapter 22 Summary

After spending a nearly hour-long drive, CJ and Owen arrive at Pigeon Point off Route 1, where they share a moment leaning against a white picket fence, admiring the coastline. Owen, displaying his knack for trivia, recounts the history of the Montara lighthouse, detailing its journey from Boston to California and the metaphor it represents about starting anew in life. This conversation leads to a discussion about Owen's past, revealing his struggles with loneliness and family issues, notably his mother's battle with depression and addiction. Despite the challenges they faced, Owen's family has found stability, which contributes to his optimistic perspective on life.

As they contemplate the beauty of the ocean, CJ internally grapples with the concept of "happily ever after," contrasting their idealistic view of love with the reality of potential heartaches. Owen's insight suggests that love involves choice and risk, but CJ counters with doubts about the permanence of relationships, revealing their contrasting views on romance and commitment. Owen's personality shines through their playful banter, reinforcing a strong connection between them.

Their conversation deepens when CJ muses about preventing historical

More Free Book



Scan to Download

disasters, amusingly selecting a personal tragedy from literature rather than grand historical events. Owen teases her about her choice, prompting a philosophical debate on the nature of significant change in history. As the sun sets, they share a cozy moment wrapped in a blanket, leading CJ to confront new feelings toward Owen that blur the lines of friendship. Yet, as she contemplates the implications of these feelings, she instinctively retreats to maintain their current dynamic.

The chapter concludes with CJ reflecting on the nature of their relationship after parting ways. Owen's teasing portrayal of a tragic love story during a history segment only strengthens her mixed feelings, leaving CJ both amused and thoughtful about the potential shift in their bond.

Chapter 23 Summary

In this chapter, CJ is engulfed in panic after realizing she may be pregnant. Overwhelmed by shame and anxiety, she grapples with her emotions, convinced she has made a reckless mistake. Her internal dialogue is marked by self-condemnation and a sense of impending doom. As she contemplates her situation, she resolves that motherhood is not a path she wants to pursue and decides that an abortion is her only option.

CJ reflects on how informed she is about the potential consequences of unprotected sex, aided by her mother's stern warnings during her

More Free Book



Scan to Download

adolescence. Despite the gravity of her circumstances, she feels disconnected from the emotional turmoil often associated with the decision to terminate a pregnancy. Her experience becomes one of detachment as she navigates the logistics of the situation, including concerns about discussing her decision with Andy, her boyfriend, whose support appears lackluster.

As days pass, CJ becomes increasingly aware of the physical changes and emotional turmoil associated with her circumstance, ultimately leading to a confrontation with Andy. The couple's conflicting feelings culminate in a breakup, illustrating CJ's resolve to face her decision alone.

With this experience, CJ grows more resolute about what she needs. She recalls her mother's advice on finding genuine self-worth and independence, allowing her to better understand her own needs and the importance of making wise choices. The chapter portrays a profound moment in CJ's journey toward maturity and self-awareness, emphasizing the complexities of love, responsibility, and personal autonomy.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 23 Summary:

In this chapter, the protagonist, CJ, is experiencing a whirlwind of emotions and events that heighten her anxiety and excitement. Three key happenings stand out: Em has arranged a second date with Fiona, CJ has exchanged flirtatious messages with Shane, and a mysterious article by Geoffrey from the Merc is set to release soon, potentially shaking up local dynamics.

CJ's anticipation leads her to an arcade where she tries to enjoy an outing with friends—Nathan, Ari, and Shane—while grappling with her feelings about Shane and the looming news about Geoffrey's article. Despite her nervousness, she manages to flirt with Shane, feeling increasingly at ease until the unexpected arrival of Brynn, a rival from her past. Brynn's presence rekindles CJ's insecurities and sense of not belonging, heightening the tension in an otherwise fun evening. Brynn's seemingly polite demeanor belies her jealousy about Em's date with Fiona, which feeds into CJ's internal conflict.

As the evening progresses, CJ finds herself overwhelmed, especially after realizing that being high isn't helping her relax. The lighthearted banter and shared moments with Shane become tainted by Brynn's arrival, and CJ's tension escalates, leading her to text Hannah for a ride home. Despite hoping for a romantic moment with Shane before leaving, Owen's arrival interrupts their budding tension, pushing CJ into an uncomfortable situation filled with



mixed feelings.

On the ride home, tensions continue as Owen questions CJ about her interactions with Shane, highlighting a defensiveness within her as she confronts her feelings about both boys and the complexities of friendships. The chapter closes with a cloud of uncertainty about the future, particularly regarding the newspaper article that could significantly affect the success of Heart's Desire, a pastry shop tied to the characters. This leaves CJ pondering the unpredictable outcomes of their endeavors, encapsulating a moment of existential doubt amidst youthful drama.

Overall, the chapter smartly balances light-hearted moments with deeper themes of insecurity, rivalry, and the changing dynamics among friends, ultimately leading to questions about the future and what it holds for CJ and her circle.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 24:

Chapter 24 Summary

The tension of a Sunday morning looms as the sun rises on a hilltop where a wedding is set to take place, emphasizing the chaotic and bitterly cold atmosphere. The protagonist, alongside their friend Hannah, has just returned from the strenuous setup. The protagonist's mother makes a quip about Sunday weddings, hinting at her disapproval, before returning to her newspaper. Hannah, with a knowing smile, hints at something momentous on the horizon, creating a sense of anticipation about tomorrow's article.

Later, the protagonist receives a text from their friend Emily, who expresses a craving for boba tea, prompting a reluctant trip to the mall. Despite their initial reluctance, they enjoy their drinks while seated on a bench, but their conversation quickly turns to more personal matters. Emily reveals her frustration over a girl named Fiona, who had initially shown interest but then decided she wasn't ready for a relationship. The protagonist expresses disappointment, believing that Emily and Fiona would have been a great match, only to learn that Emily didn't feel a strong connection anyway.

Emily admits she feels relieved that things ended before they truly began, sparking curiosity in the protagonist. The topic shifts as Emily reveals she

More Free Book



Scan to Download

has been following a girl named Brynn on social media, someone the protagonist had seen the previous night. This leads to questions about Brynn's reaction upon hearing about Emily's potential romance with Fiona, revealing a deeper layer of Emily's feelings that complicate matters further. The conversation reveals Emily's mixed emotions and uncertainties about

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Why Bookey is must have App for Book Lovers



30min Content

The deeper and clearer interpretation we provide, the better grasp of each title you have.



Text and Audio format

Absorb knowledge even in fragmented time.



Quiz

Check whether you have mastered what you just learned.



And more

Multiple Voices & fonts, Mind Map, Quotes, IdeaClips...

Free Trial with Bookey



Chapter 25 Summary:

In Chapter 25, we find CJ jolted awake at the early hour of 4:30 AM by his mother, who is fraught with anxiety upon learning about a damaging news article regarding Heart's Desire, a family-owned business. The article covers MVC's offer to buy the business, and CJ's mother is concerned about the potential fallout if local news crews start showing up. It's clear that she's deeply upset, especially with her sister Hannah, who they believe leaked information to the press.

Amid CJ's groggy protests, his mother's frustration escalates as she prepares to head to work for damage control, implying that the sale is not as hypothetical as she previously suggested. This revelation shatters CJ's hopes of keeping the business; he realizes his mother has been planning to sell Heart's Desire all along. As she departs for work, CJ is left stunned by the implications of her words: their family's long-held grudge against the McAllisters, the prospective buyers, can now be set aside for the sake of financial relief.

Once Mom leaves, CJ heads to Sweet Emily's bakery for refuge and a croissant, attempting to digest the intense news. There, he accesses the Merc online and uncovers a critical backstory concerning the McAllister family, whose seemingly philanthropic legacy is marred by a dark history of exploitation. The article outlines how the McAllisters used unethical means



to acquire their vast wealth, particularly during World War II when Japanese American farmers were interned. They took advantage of these unjust circumstances to buy properties at minimal prices, contributing to their rise in influence and profit while effectively erasing the Japanese American community's presence.

CJ reads that the McAllisters became notorious for their land acquisitions, including the orchard where McAllister High School now stands—once owned by a Japanese farmer. The same pattern of greed and racism underlies Robert McAllister Sr.'s actions, who was vocal about his intentions to rid the community of Asian immigrants, showcasing a profound hypocrisy in their charitable donations against the backdrop of their morally questionable past.

As the chapter closes, the reader sees CJ grappling with the weight of this newfound knowledge, realizing that the family's struggles with Heart's Desire are intricately tied to a broader history of wrongs and upheaval in their community, radically shifting his perception of both the McAllisters and his family legacy.

Chapter 26 has yet to be provided, but this summary captures the essence and significance of the events in Chapter 25 while integrating contextual

More Free Book



Scan to Download

details to enhance comprehension.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 26 Summary:

In Chapter 26, the protagonist grapples with the unsettling realizations surrounding their family's business, Heart's Desire, and the implications of selling it to Geoffrey McAllister, a figure emblematic of greed and racism. Initially, the protagonist's intent in reaching out to Geoffrey was to frame a narrative around the family's struggle to preserve their history against corporate exploitation. However, the more they delve into McAllister's past, the clearer it becomes that he is not merely a businessman; he is a villain whose wealth was built on the suffering of others, including the Motohara family—his historical adversaries.

The protagonist's discomfort deepens as they reflect on how their mother, who aspires to make what seems like a persuasive business decision, is eager to sell the family's legacy back to the descendants of a racist family. This conflict strikes at the core of the protagonist's identity and values. A sense of betrayal emerges as they sit alone in the dimly lit Sweet Emily's, a place once filled with warmth and nostalgia, now overshadowed by the reality of its problematic ties.

Confronted by the expectations set by their mother to achieve success in conventional terms—wealth, power, and prestige—the protagonist realizes that their own aspirations are fundamentally different. They value loyalty, family, and the meaningful contributions to those around them, particularly

More Free Book



Scan to Download

the happiness of their friend Emily and the legacy of Heart's Desire. They feel a deep connection to the history of their family, contrasting sharply with their mother's ambitions.

This realization fosters a newfound sense of clarity: rather than following the path laid out for them, the protagonist is motivated by a desire for justice and the need to right historical wrongs. Specifically, they wish to honor the Motohara family—whose land rights were wrongfully neglected. With this resolve, the protagonist decides to take action that might disappoint their mother but aligns more closely with their own values. They pick up their phone and begin to compose a message that marks the beginning of their commitment to change, thus indicating a pivot in their journey toward authentic self-advocacy and justice.

In Chapter 27, the protagonist's decisions are set in motion, illustrating the unfolding consequences of standing up for what they believe is right, transforming their understanding of legacy and responsibility.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 27 Summary:

Chapter 27 Summary

In the cozy yet chaotic environment of Sweet Emily's, CJ sits alone in a booth, grappling with mixed feelings about inviting her friend Emily into a group chat regarding a school initiative. She is worried that Emily is drifting away from her and struggles between the insecurity of possibly excluding her and the desire to rely on their friendship. Ultimately, she chooses to trust their bond and includes Emily in the conversation, acknowledging that the larger issue at hand is more important than her personal fears.

As dawn breaks at five in the morning, CJ sends out texts to her friends, including Owen, Aviana, and Emily. She dozes off only to wake up to messages. Aviana expresses her eagerness to help despite her swim practice, while Owen's witty autocorrect mishap, signaling he's on his way, brings a smile to CJ's face. Moments later, Owen arrives, ready to tackle breakfast and brainstorm ideas, while Emily soon joins them with a tray of muffins.

The trio dives into a passionate discussion about a student movement aimed at renaming their school, currently commemorating Robert McAllister, a figure tied to a history of racism. CJ proposes that the school be renamed after RyMhei Motohara, a figure more aligned with t

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Owen supports the idea, citing the importance of recognizing nonwhite history and rebukes the tradition of honoring historical figures with problematic legacies.

As they strategize their movement, CJ emphasizes the need for collaboration and suggests reaching out to their peers for support. Owen proposes including Zach Webster, who is connected to the Japanese community, and Aviana, who is already on board. The discussion expands to include Will, Sam, and potential allies like Mizhir and Tulasi. Emily insists they must also include Brynn, the highly capable vice president of the Associated Student Body (ASB), underscoring the benefits of her experience despite CJ's hesitations about Brynn's past demeanor.

Navigating her emotions, CJ resolves to keep her focus on the larger goal of the movement, hoping to move beyond feelings of jealousy or insecurity regarding Emily's burgeoning connections with Brynn. The chapter closes on a hopeful note as the group unites in their mission, reaffirming their commitment to effecting meaningful change despite their personal challenges.

Chapter 28 Summary (to be read in context with Chapter 27)

More Free Book



Scan to Download

The next chapter continues with the group solidifying their plans for the demonstration. CJ feels rejuvenated by the team's energy and the early brainstorming session. Each member brings forth ideas on how to engage more students and beyond just signatures. They consider organizing a series of events to raise awareness around both the history of the school's namesake and the broader implications of representation and inclusivity in their community.

As they articulate their vision, CJ takes the lead in crafting a compelling narrative that can resonate with their peers. They all agree that using social media effectively could spread awareness and foster communication among students. Owen suggests they could create shareable graphics or videos that detail the timeline of the school's history and its impact on student identity.

While discussions unfold, CJ occasionally feels pangs of envy regarding Brynn's prominence, but she consciously pushes those feelings aside, recognizing the necessity of her addition to the cause. Together, they brainstorm ways to engage the administration, pinpointing strategies to present their case convincingly, highlighting the need for a serious re-evaluation of the school's namesake.

Camaraderie deepens within the group as they share personal anecdotes that speak to their motivations for wanting change, transforming a simple school

More Free Book



Scan to Download

issue into a rallying point for broader dialogues on race and history. The chapter culminates in a powerful pact among friends to strive for not just a name change, but a movement that resonates with inclusivity and justice—a defining moment for their school and for themselves.

This journey, rife with conflict and camaraderie, sets the stage for subsequent trials and growth as CJ and her friends advocate for change while navigating their evolving relationships.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 28:

Chapter 28 Summary

In this chapter, the protagonist, bracing for a chaotic school experience following the news of the Katsuyama-McAllister controversy, finds that the fallout isn't as intense as anticipated. Aside from a few inquiries from teachers, life in school carries on relatively normally. Along with her friend Owen, she visits Heart's Desire, where Hannah shares a crucial video revealing the McAllister family's public response to recent events.

At a press conference, Trey McAllister, the CEO of McAllister Venture Capital and the protagonist's mother's boss, delivers a statement addressing the shameful internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, a dark chapter in American history driven by racial prejudice. He apologizes on behalf of his grandfather, Robert McAllister Senior, whose actions during the war were fueled by personal tragedies but are ultimately condemned. Trey praises the resilience of the Japanese American community and highlights the protagonist's mother, Michelle Katsuyama, as a beacon of this strength.

While Hannah critiques Michelle's appearance as overly polished for the occasion, the protagonist grapples with a mix of pride and frustration

More Free Book



Scan to Download

towards her mother's role as a backdrop in this narrative. Trey continues by positioning the McAllister family as committed to a mission of investing for a better future, resulting in applause and smiles from bystanders—though the protagonist feels conflicted about the implications of her mother's alignment with the McAllisters.

Hannah's comment that Michelle has "sold her soul" underscores the protagonist's anger and disappointment—she recognizes the exploitative nature of their collaboration, even as her mother remains a figure of resilience.

A Brief Overview of Asian American History

Providing context to the chapter, a concise history illustrates the struggles faced by Asian Americans in the United States, beginning in the mid-1800s with the influx of Chinese laborers. Despite their contributions, they were labeled as threats to American workers, leading to discriminatory legislation like the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. Over time, racial biases continued against various Asian communities, culminating in tragic events including the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

As societal views shifted post-war, the narrative around Asian Americans developed the "model minority" myth, which portrayed them as paragons of hard work and diligence, often pitting them against other minority groups in

More Free Book



Scan to Download

a competition for societal acceptance and equality. This myth served as a way to diminish the very real struggles faced by Asian Americans while simultaneously allowing white Americans to disavow their own systemic racism by pointing to perceived success among Asians. This complex web of history underscores the multilayered challenges that Asian Americans

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Positive feedback

Sara Scholz

...tes after each book summary
...erstanding but also make the
...and engaging. Bookey has
...ling for me.

Fantastic!!!



I'm amazed by the variety of books and languages Bookey supports. It's not just an app, it's a gateway to global knowledge. Plus, earning points for charity is a big plus!

Masood El Toure

Fi



Ab
bo
to
my

José Botín

...ding habit
...o's design
...ual growth

Love it!



Bookey offers me time to go through the important parts of a book. It also gives me enough idea whether or not I should purchase the whole book version or not! It is easy to use!

Wonnie Tappkx

Time saver!



Bookey is my go-to app for summaries are concise, ins curated. It's like having acc right at my fingertips!

Awesome app!



I love audiobooks but don't always have time to listen to the entire book! bookey allows me to get a summary of the highlights of the book I'm interested in!!! What a great concept !!!highly recommended!

Rahul Malviya

Beautiful App



This app is a lifesaver for book lovers with busy schedules. The summaries are spot on, and the mind maps help reinforce wh I've learned. Highly recommend!

Alex Walk

Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 29 Summary:

In chapter 29, the tension in the household escalates as CJ, Hannah, and their mother face the aftermath of a controversial news story involving their family. They are watching the news, snacking on kettle corn, when Hannah vehemently criticizes Trey—a character associated with the wealthy and controversial McAllister family—after his public statement about racial issues. This statement has sparked debate about whether the McAllisters' philanthropic efforts can absolve them of their racist legacy. The sisters engage in a heated discussion about the implications of Trey's words, revealing a deeper conflict about racism and personal accountability.

Mom, trying to balance her work and the emotional turmoil stemming from the media scrutiny, interrupts the sisters' argument. This illustrates the different perspectives within the family: while Mom wants to avoid further conflict for the family's safety, Hannah feels the need to stand up against injustice, intensifying the family's strife. CJ, torn between wanting to support Hannah and fearing the repercussions of their activism, ultimately asserts that the blame lies with the racists, not with his sister.

The chapter climaxes with Mom forbidding CJ from engaging publicly in the controversy, exercising her authority as a protective parent. CJ realizes the irony in her admonition; she often encourages him to be proactive and engaged, but now, when the stakes are high, she wants him to withdraw.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

This moment represents a pivotal turning point for CJ as he contemplates his identity and values amidst familial and societal pressures. Fueled by a strong sense of justice, CJ resolves to take action, declaring his intent to “Proactivate” and become involved in addressing the issues plaguing their community.

The stage is set for conflict as CJ wrestles with his mother's protective instincts and his burgeoning desire to fight for what he believes in, showcasing the complexities of family dynamics in the face of social injustice.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 30 Summary:

In Chapter 30, the narrative unpacks the motivations behind a movement spearheaded by Owen, who aims to bring awareness to the racist underpinnings of the school named after Robert McAllister. He plans to use the "Weekly History Minute" segment to highlight historical discrimination against Asians in the U.S. and rally support for a petition to rename their school in honor of RyMhei Motohara, a Japanese American who suffered greatly during World War II.

The characters gather for a lunch meeting to strategize the upcoming demonstration. Alongside Owen, Aviana, Zach, and CJ are present, while Emily arrives with Brynn, Nikki, and Lilianna. However, the tension is palpable as CJ grapples with feelings of betrayal regarding Emily's budding friendship with Brynn. It becomes increasingly evident that conflicts and unspoken feelings linger beneath their discussed plans. Brynn has been proactive in organizing the movement, having secured resources and rallied support from various student clubs, but her banter with Emily irks CJ, who feels sidelined.

While Owen diligently works on the script, his concentration is momentarily broken by playful exchanges with CJ that momentarily lift her mood. Yet, CJ's feelings of insecurity and jealousy persist, leading to passive-aggressive remarks that disrupt the group's focus. The chapter captures the broader

More Free Book



Scan to Download

themes of mockery versus seriousness, as CJ struggles to reconcile her emotions while working towards a shared cause. Despite the tension, Owen's charm and supportive nature help CJ rediscover her resolve, reminding her that they are all united in their quest for justice.

As they finalize the script, Owen underscores the story of a fallen hero who symbolizes resilience and bravery amidst tragedy. The chapter ends with a call to action from Owen, insisting that their school's name should honor a true American hero rather than a figure associated with racism, thereby weaving together the past and present in their fight for recognition and justice.

In Chapter 31, Owen's assertive stance against the past injustices faced by Motohara and countless others echoes as the characters prepare for the demonstration, showcasing their determination to create a more inclusive future. The various student groups, including the Asian Student Coalition and others, unite alongside Owen, bolstering the movement's strength and increasing their impact on the school community. Through this chapter, the narrative threads together the significance of solidarity and the ongoing fight against systemic oppression, illustrating the characters' growth as they stand up for what is right.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 31 Summary:

In this chapter, the protagonist grapples with her desire to support a protest against her high school's namesake, Robert McAllister, while navigating familial pressure and social dynamics. The lunchtime demonstration, led by her friends Owen, Aviana, and Zach, aims to raise awareness of the injustices faced by Japanese American families during World War II and demand the school be renamed in honor of the land's rightful owner. The protagonist, concerned for her safety given the backlash against activism and her family's divided opinions, chooses to remain on the sidelines, expressing her support in a more discreet manner by creating and giving charms symbolizing perseverance to her friends.

As the demonstration unfolds, the protagonist feels a mix of pride and sadness as Owen speaks passionately about justice and the significance of honoring all marginalized communities. However, this positive sentiment is quickly undermined by negative reactions from some peers, revealing the pervasive ignorance and racism that still exist. This includes hostility directed at Zach and Aviana for not being "fully Japanese," which deeply unsettles her.

Amid her contemplation, the dynamics shift further when Sabrina, Owen's classmate, flirts with him during the event. Struggling with her emotions, the protagonist grapples with jealousy and self-doubt while admiring Owen's

More Free Book



Scan to Download

advocacy. At that moment, Shane, a fellow student, engages her in conversation about her activism, prompting a reflection on her family's involvement and her own hesitations. Shane offers cynical yet practical advice, suggesting that being active in the protest could be beneficial for their college applications, revealing a more complex perspective on activism.

As they discuss the name change, Shane initially appears indifferent, citing tradition and school loyalty, which frustrates the protagonist. However, an insightful exchange leads him to understand the importance of the petition, and he commits to signing it. Their budding friendship hints at a deeper connection, with Shane expressing admiration for the protagonist's leadership.

The chapter crescendos when Shane intervenes in a confrontation with a dismissive peer, defending the protagonist and asserting the necessity of acknowledging history. The conflict illustrates the tension around racial identity and social justice, culminating in both characters deciding to support the movement. Meanwhile, the protagonist's inner turmoil is compounded by her awareness of Owen's attention on Sabrina, exacerbating her feelings of inadequacy.

As the demonstration ends, she gains clarity about her desires. Although initially feeling overshadowed, she embraces her role in the movement and

More Free Book



Scan to Download

looks ahead to a date with Shane, realizing she can be a leader both in her activism and personal life. The chapter closes with her resolve to work harder on the STORM campaign while grappling with the complexities of friendship, identity, and emerging romantic interest.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 32:

In this chapter, we follow the protagonist, who has just helped set up a wedding for her friend Hannah. While Hannah enjoys the festivities, the protagonist reflects on her own day, feeling a mix of loneliness and determination. Owen, her friend, has left to prepare for a date with Sabrina, prompting the protagonist to spend her afternoon alone at home. She initially plans to work on important tasks, including brainstorming ideas for a school board presentation and creating flyers advocating for renaming her school. However, she inadvertently finds herself designing flyers for a whimsical concept—a student line of flower magic—diverting from her original intentions.

Instead of focusing on her goals, the protagonist ends up on the couch with her mother, eating ice cream and watching nostalgic nineties sitcoms. Despite her intention to maintain distance and resentment towards her mother, she succumbs to the moment, enjoying the comfort of their shared experience. The mother-daughter dynamic has been strained, but that evening, as they lose themselves in the comedic escapades of the characters on screen, she reminisces about the idea of a perfect life, free from conflict and misunderstandings.

The protagonist longs for resolution in her own life—hoping for the successful protection of their family store, reconciliation between her mother

More Free Book



Scan to Download

and Hannah, and a deeper connection with her mother. Within this serene moment, she wishes to momentarily escape from the past grievances and uncertainties that linger between them, cherishing a sense of togetherness that feels fleeting yet deeply meaningful. The chapter highlights the complexity of familial relationships, blending nostalgia, hope, and a desire for healing amidst the challenges they face.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Read, Share, Empower

Finish Your Reading Challenge, Donate Books to African Children.

The Concept



This book donation activity is rolling out together with Books For Africa. We release this project because we share the same belief as BFA: For many children in Africa, the gift of books truly is a gift of hope.

The Rule



Earn 100 points



Redeem a book



Donate to Africa

Your learning not only brings knowledge but also allows you to earn points for charitable causes! For every 100 points you earn, a book will be donated to Africa.

Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 33 Summary:

Chapter 33 Summary:

It's Valentine's Day and the atmosphere in the flower shop, Heart's Desire, is both chaotic and vibrant. CJ is feeling overwhelmed as she reflects on the long hours spent working on floral arrangements alongside her friend Hannah. Despite their efforts, business has surged not just due to the holiday excitement, but also the attention from local media — though Hannah's attempts to secure financial support for their store from organizations like the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) seem to be falling flat.

Amidst these external pressures, tensions are brewing closer to home. CJ feels a growing distance with her friends Owen and Emily after they had a weekend outing with others, leaving her feeling excluded. Conversations are awkward, and simple questions about their plans trigger feelings of hurt and resentment. CJ struggles with her emotions, trying to navigate an unspoken rift while pretending that everything is fine.

As the day progresses, the trio works tirelessly in the shop, except for a break where Owen brings takeout ramen, which becomes a moment of camaraderie and relief. This gesture momentarily alleviates CJ's frustrations, leading to a fleeting sense of ease among friends. However, her thoughts

More Free Book



Scan to Download

drift back to her complicated feelings for Owen while she texts Shane, a boy from out of town. The interplay of texting Shane while feeling excluded by Owen only deepens her internal conflict.

Owen's curiosity about her texts only adds to the tension. In a moment of defensiveness, CJ shuts down the conversation, reflecting the ongoing struggle for her to express her feelings about these friendships. Suddenly, a group chat notification from Brynn, a friend involved in the STORM committee, interrupts, reminding CJ of the pressures she faces regarding social issues they're advocating for.

Feeling overwhelmed, CJ decides to prioritize her self-care, silencing the notifications from the group chat and declaring she needs to leave for the evening. This choice highlights her desire to reclaim some control over her life amidst the emotional turmoil surrounding her relationships and the challenges of managing work and aspirations.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 34 Summary:

In chapter 34, the protagonist grapples with intense emotions after reading an article in the newspaper about Brynn, a fellow student who has become a prominent figure in the movement to rename McAllister High School. The article, written by Geoffrey Acosta, presents Brynn as an exemplary leader advocating for LGBTQ+ and women's rights, credited with extensive experience in organizing events and activism. This portrayal infuriates the protagonist, who feels that Brynn is appropriating the movement and diverting attention away from those who have genuine personal connections to the issues at stake.

After returning to school post-February break, the protagonist's anger intensifies upon seeing Brynn, Owen, and Aviana participating in a news interview. Brynn monopolizes the conversation, overshadowing her peers and seemingly reveling in the spotlight. The protagonist's feelings of outrage are compounded by a sense of jealousy, realizing that Brynn has once again secured the attention and acclaim the protagonist has always desired.

As the day unfolds, the protagonist seeks out Emily, hoping that witnessing Brynn's behavior will illuminate her true character. However, upon spotting Emily surrounded by Brynn and their friends, the protagonist is left disheartened. The cheerful atmosphere among the group starkly contrasts with the protagonist's agitation, leaving her questioning her emotions and the

More Free Book



Scan to Download

dynamics within the group. The chapter concludes with a palpable sense of unresolved tension, foreshadowing further conflicts as the story progresses.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 35 Summary:

In Chapter 35, the tension is palpable among the members of the Storm group as they gather in Mr. Harrison's classroom for an emergency meeting about Brynn, a fellow member who has recently overshadowed the group's efforts with her self-centered behavior. Emily argues for giving Brynn another chance, insisting that Brynn didn't intend to overshadow anyone, citing her past contributions to social causes like the March for Our Lives walkout. However, CJ and others express frustration; they believe Brynn's actions demonstrate a consistent pattern of self-absorption, particularly in a recent incident where she interrupted Aviana during a public presentation and drew unwanted attention to herself.

As the group debates, CJ passionately advocates for Brynn's resignation, asserting that her actions cannot be excused simply because of her achievements or her identity as a minority leader. The conversation reveals underlying issues of intersectionality and perceived privilege; some group members feel that Brynn's white privilege allows her to dominate discussions and overshadow their own voices as leaders from underrepresented communities. Despite this, others like Emily continue to defend Brynn, signaling a division in the group regarding how they should address the situation.

When Brynn eventually arrives, she is initially unaware of the depth of their



concerns. Her defensiveness only increases as she tries to rationalize her behavior, insisting that she aimed to unify the group's message. As the discussion unfolds, it becomes clear that Brynn struggles to recognize her impact on her peers, leading to a confrontation where CJ ultimately asserts that enough is enough, insisting that the vote should determine Brynn's fate within the group.

The chapter culminates in a tense vote. Although the decision is close, CJ ultimately informs Brynn that she must resign. As Brynn's tears flow, a conflicted CJ feels a mix of vindication and sorrow, realizing that the weight of the decision reflects not just Brynn's failings, but the complexities of power, representation, and accountability within their community activism efforts.

Chapter 36 begins with the fallout from Brynn's resignation. The group members grapple with their feelings of guilt and relief, reflecting on their motivations and fears as they navigate the delicate balance between supporting one another and asserting their own needs and identities. The consequences of their choice challenge them to reevaluate their roles and responsibilities, both as individuals and as a collective navigating social justice within their school environment. Tensions linger, but there's a sense that the group is moving towards deeper understanding and solidarity, driven by the need to honor diverse voices while holding each other accountable.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 36:

In Chapter 36, CJ navigates tension at home related to her mom's management of their family flower shop, Heart's Desire. After Brynn's removal from the committee, CJ's team struggles without her insights, leading to bickering over presentation strategies for the upcoming school board meeting. CJ feels the weight of Brynn's absence keenly as she faces her mom's disapproval regarding her involvement with the school renaming movement. CJ confronts her mother, explaining her passionate belief in preserving Heart's Desire and criticizing her mother's intention to prioritize financial success over family legacy.

The conversation escalates as CJ's mother, driven by her own painful past, defends her perspective on ambition and financial security, citing her childhood struggles and the sacrifices she's made. CJ's resentment grows when she feels her mom is dismissing her ideals and painting her commitment to social justice as childish. The argument reveals a rift between them, as CJ wants to fight for what is right, while her mother urges caution and compromise for the sake of their future.

As their fierce exchanges unfold, deeper truths about their experiences with racism and sexism are shared. CJ grapples with conflicting emotions—admiration for her mother's accomplishments and disappointment at what she perceives as a betrayal of their shared values.



The chapter concludes with CJ facing the harsh reality that no matter the outcome of her activism, she risks losing either her dream or her relationship with her mother.

Transitioning to Chapter 37, the narrative shifts to CJ's personal crisis following a visit to the doctor. During a routine appointment, the doctor discreetly raises the topic of a potential pregnancy, catalyzing a series of difficult emotions for CJ. As the gravity of the situation settles in, she struggles with feelings of guilt and fear, unsure how to confront her mother about the reality of her situation.

After a tense dinner, the truth surfaces: CJ confides in her mother about the pregnancy, triggering a flood of mixed reactions from her mom, who moves from shock to a fierce protective instinct. While CJ anticipates blame, her mother's eventual support emerges as a double-edged sword; though she offers practical steps for CJ to consider, the conversation is tinged with residual resentment and pressure.

The familial dynamics further complicate when Hannah, a friend and advocate for CJ, tries to interject with her own opinions on the situation, highlighting the differing perspectives on motherhood and responsibility. CJ feels the weight of expectation and disappointment as she questions her own worth, reflecting on her mother's past choices and whether her presence has truly been a matter of joy or a burden.

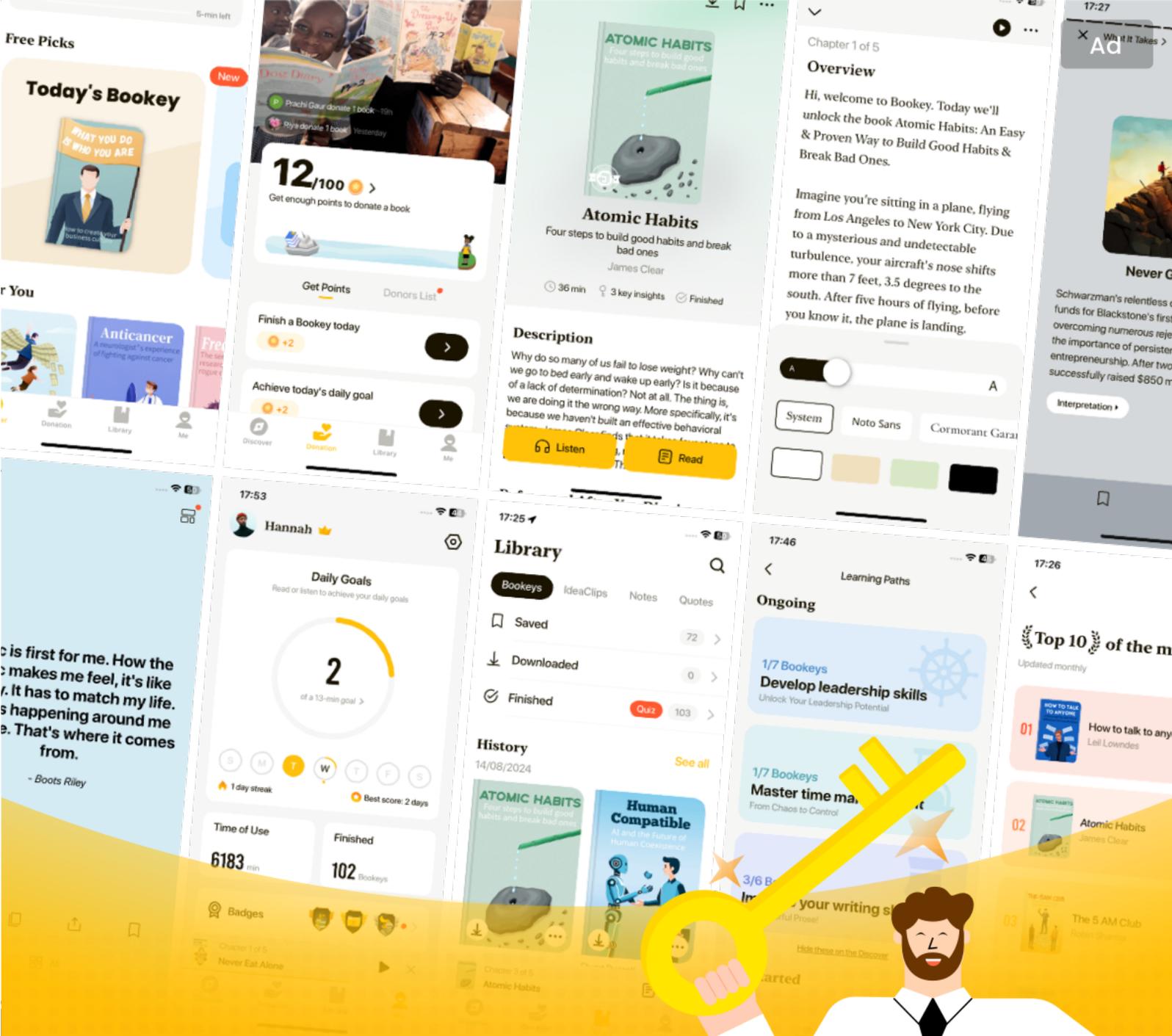


The chapter deepens the exploration of mother-daughter complexities as both women navigate their emotions, with CJ feeling caught between wanting to honor her mother's struggles while grappling with her own agency and choices. The weight of their history looms heavily as CJ internally wrestles with the notion of worthiness and legacy, marking a critical turning point in her journey of self-discovery amid familial pressures and societal expectations.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





World' best ideas unlock your potential

Free Trial with Bookey



Scan to download



Chapter 37 Summary:

In Chapter 37, nearly three weeks after Valentine's Day, Ceej finds herself caught in the aftermath of school committee turmoil surrounding a student-led initiative called STORM. There's a school board meeting looming, and the atmosphere is tense due to recent controversy over the firing of Brynn from the committee, with speculation that it was due to her race. While tensions rise, Mizhir expresses his doubts, and there's an underlying fear that this decision—if deemed racially motivated—could harm their cause.

Despite Ceej's confidence in the STORM presentation, she is haunted by her fractured relationship with Owen, who holds her accountable for Brynn's dismissal. Owen tells her that her approach seemed aggressive and suggests that they risk appearing disorganized or prejudiced in front of the school board. Ceej tries to defend her actions by emphasizing Brynn's insensitivity and the need to prioritize their cause over personal grievances. Their debate shifts between the personal and political, highlighting their differing views on inclusion and optics.

As Owen accuses Ceej of allowing personal grudges to cloud her judgment, she grapples with the implications of her choices and finds herself defensive. Unable to reach a consensus, they pivot to the topic of Shane, a fellow student who has shown interest in Ceej and may also attend the board



meeting. Owen expresses protective feelings for Ceej, hinting at jealousy over her connection with Shane. Ceej rebuffs his concerns, insisting that she does not need his approval.

However, the conversation takes a surprising turn when Owen confesses his feelings for Ceej, which complicates their relationship further. While initially taken aback, Ceej attempts to deflect and mask her own feelings of surprise and vulnerability by bringing up Owen's supposed flirtation with another girl, Sabrina.

This moment leaves both characters uncertain and tangled in their emotions, highlighting the difficulty of navigating personal and political identities in a charged environment.

As Chapter 38 begins, the tension set up in Chapter 37 prepares readers for the upcoming confrontation at the school board meeting, where the stakes are high not only for the STORM initiative but also for the relationships that are evolving outside of it.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 38 Summary:

In Chapter 38, the protagonist grapples with the hurt from previous interactions, particularly with Brynn, and the recent confrontation from Owen about her obsession with personal issues. The comparison to stinging nettles reflects her emotional turmoil; just as a touch from the plant causes intense pain, Owen's words sting her conscience, making her reconsider her feelings toward Brynn.

As she drives Emily to a school board meeting, she hopes to confide in her friend to alleviate some of the discomfort. However, Emily's perspective surprises her. While Ceej feels justified in her animosity toward Brynn, Em points out that these feelings might be rooted in an unresolved middle school incident, suggesting that it's clouding her judgment regarding Brynn's contributions to their activism. When Ceej attempts to divulge more, Emily, sensing potential conflict, asks her to pause. The tension between them grows as Emily announces she will be going home with Brynn after the meeting, a decision that Ceej feels betrays their alliance.

At the meeting, the atmosphere shifts as the stress surrounding their presentation dissipates due to its success. Members of their group, STORM, present a compelling argument about changing the name of their school, which gets a strong reaction from both supportive and neutral attendees, including Shane, who helps underscore that this issue affects everyone, not



just minorities. Ceej admires Owen's fair-mindedness, but her insecurities surface as she feels inadequate in comparison.

After the meeting, while soaking wet and feeling lonely, Shane approaches Ceej with an invitation to a party at the luxurious home of the Hoas. His enthusiasm and charm draw her in despite her reservations. The notion of a dazzling gathering and the prospect of spending time with Shane, who has a magnetic personality, ignites a sense of excitement within her, allowing her to momentarily forget her conflicts. She accepts his invitation, marking a turning point as she steps outside the bounds of her current emotional struggles and into the social scene she has been hesitant to engage with.

Overall, this chapter illustrates Ceej's internal conflicts, her struggle with unresolved past grievances, and her budding relationship with Shane, setting the stage for new social dynamics and personal growth as she navigates her feelings.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 39 Summary:

In Chapter 39, the protagonist reflects on the shift in routine that comes with waking up late on a Saturday—a change precipitated by the absence of a wedding to help Hannah with. This transition is bittersweet; while the extra rest is appreciated, it signifies a downturn in business that leaves financial concerns looming over them. Hannah, the shop's owner, confides that February's sales have dwindled despite a slight uptick from a recent magazine article. She decides to close the shop for the weekend to prioritize self-care before a visit from the protagonist's mother, which the protagonist finds unusual given their precarious financial situation.

With time on her hands, the protagonist focuses on a task at hand—crafting a custom hairpiece for a client, Sabrina Dang, who is preparing for a dance competition. The piece features delicate roses and jasmine leaves, showcasing the protagonist's skills and creativity. However, while working, she grapples with feelings of isolation, longing for someone to share her accomplishments with, especially regarding a recent successful event on Thursday. Her relationships with friends, such as Owen and Emily, feel distant or strained, and she feels unable to confide in her mother, which deepens her sadness. This chapter captures a poignant moment of self-reflection amid professional challenges, highlighting her desire for validation and connection.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 40:

In this chapter, the protagonist arrives at a sprawling party in a rural area where local ordinances ensure large properties, making them perfect for loud, exuberant gatherings. The house is reminiscent of movie party scenes, contrasting sharply with the quiet norm of Silicon Valley hangouts. As the protagonist navigates the house, she encounters a range of revelers, including a girl sobbing on the couch and a boy selling THC products. The atmosphere is chaotic yet vibrant, filled with laughter, competition, and the smell of smoke wafting from the patio, where Shane, Nathan, and Ari engage in a drinking contest.

Shane, a muscular and charismatic boy, greets the protagonist enthusiastically. Their strong chemistry is evident as Shane lifts her in excitement and expresses gratitude for her presence. Drawing closer, they find a cozy reading nook away from the party. Shane shares his desire to kiss her, but when the protagonist questions his interest beyond her looks, the moment turns awkward as Shane struggles to articulate his thoughts before unexpected nausea strikes.

The encounter quickly shifts from a romantic tension to an unplanned and awkward moment as Shane has to catch his breath and hurriedly stumbles toward the door to be sick outside. The protagonist feels a mix of compassion and concern, leading him back inside after he vomits. In this



vulnerable moment, Shane thanks her, but it becomes clear that the initial allure of his charm doesn't fulfill her deeper emotional needs.

As she leaves, the protagonist reflects on her desire for a genuine connection; she realizes that while Shane finds her attractive, their relationship lacks the depth she craves. She yearns for someone who understands her, challenges her, and shares a meaningful bond. These thoughts spur her to seek out Owen, someone she hopes can provide that greater connection and forgiveness for her previous jerky behavior. With that determination, she spots his truck, setting the stage for future reconciliation and growth.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey



Ad



Try Bookey App to read 1000+ summary of world best books

Unlock 1000+ Titles, 80+ Topics

New titles added every week

- Brand
- Leadership & Collaboration
- Time Management
- Relationship & Communication
- Business Strategy
- Creativity
- Public
- Money & Investing
- Know Yourself
- Positive Psychology
- Entrepreneurship
- World History
- Parent-Child Communication
- Self-care
- Mind & Spirituality

Insights of world best books



Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 41 Summary:

In this chapter, the protagonist is filled with mixed emotions as she spots Owen's truck at a lively party in the hills, signaling his arrival. Excited yet anxious, she worries that her recent assistance to Shane, another party attendee, might lead Owen to think she is still interested in him, rather than choosing Owen. In a desperate attempt to connect, she sends Owen a text but receives no response.

Determined to find him, she navigates through the bustling party but encounters obstacles, including oversized patrons blocking her way. Finally, she spots Owen, but just as their eyes meet, disaster strikes. A clumsy partygoer, fueled by alcohol, spills a drink all over her. The crowd gasps, and the remorseful drink-spiller tries to apologize repeatedly, but she brushes him off, feeling humiliated.

Just when she hopes Owen would rush over to comfort her, she's stunned to see Sabrina, her beautiful friend, instead swoop in to offer her concern. As Sabrina tends to her, the protagonist realizes that Sabrina has been cozying up to Owen, indicating that her own hopes may be futile. Sabrina's visibly affectionate posture toward Owen, as she points out the flowers in her hair, reveals that she is indeed vying for his attention.

This moment crystallizes the protagonist's feelings of disappointment and



confusion, setting the stage for a deeper exploration of her emotions and the complexities of love, friendship, and rivalry among the characters.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 42 Summary:

In Chapter 42, CJ grapples with feelings of jealousy and heartbreak as she witnesses her friend Emily moving on romantically with Brynn, a girl who has previously hurt Emily and caused conflict in their friendship.

Disconcerted, CJ reflects on the possibility that the so-called "flower magic" binding Sabrina and Owen may not actually be real, leading her to ponder the weight of Emily's genuine affection for Brynn.

When CJ unexpectedly runs into Emily, she's caught off guard and soon finds herself confiding in her friend about her emotional turmoil. While experiencing a wave of sadness, she tries to maintain her composure and be supportive. Emily reveals she has developed feelings for Brynn, an admission that stirs a mix of emotions in CJ, especially given the history between Emily and Brynn—their tumultuous breakup in eighth grade. Emily insists she's never been happier, prompting CJ to put aside her apprehensions for the sake of their friendship.

As they talk, CJ's hurt begins to surface when she questions Emily about the timeline of her relationship with Brynn, ultimately discovering that Emily had been dishonest about her activities on Valentine's Day. Emily explains that she was with Brynn and mutual friends, and the two shared a romantic connection after their friends left. CJ's feelings of betrayal deepen, leading her to express long-held grievances about Brynn's past treatment of Emily

More Free Book



Scan to Download

and her own insecurities about her relationships.

Emily confronts CJ, accusing her of harboring jealousy toward Brynn's success. Tensions escalate as CJ lashes out, recalling moments from eighth grade when Brynn acted maliciously against their friendship. Caught in a spiral of her own bitterness and the need to defend Emily, CJ crosses a line with harsh accusations about Brynn's motives.

In the aftermath of this explosive confrontation, CJ is left feeling a deep sense of regret as Emily silently leaves, tears glistening in her eyes. This encounter illustrates the pain of betrayal and the complexities of friendship and loyalty, revealing CJ's internal struggle as she navigates her own feelings of inadequacy and heartbreak amid Emily's newfound happiness.

CJ's reaction emphasizes the broader theme of how past traumas can shape present relationships, blurring the lines between protection and jealousy, and complicating the very notion of support when one's friend takes a path that feels fraught with potential pitfalls. The chapter leaves CJ alone with her thoughts, questioning the validity of her protective instincts and the chasm that has formed between her and Emily, once close friends now caught in a tumultuous emotional rift.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 43 Summary:

In this chapter, the protagonist finds herself driving aimlessly in the hills, grappling with the fallout from recent events in her life. Having rejected a potential boyfriend and feeling the loss of her once-close friend Owen—who is now entangled with someone else—she realizes that her friendships, especially with Emily, are paramount to her well-being.

Reflecting on the emotional turmoil, she decides that repairing her friendship with Emily is crucial. After all, if Emily's new romantic interest, Brynn, ultimately hurts her, she wants to be there to support her friend. Driven by this desire to mend fences, she sends Emily a heartfelt text, seeking forgiveness for her earlier harsh words. She acknowledges her hurt but insists that her outburst wasn't a true reflection of her feelings.

As she waits anxiously for Emily's response, time feels both faint and heavy. When Emily finally replies, her message reveals the depths of misunderstanding: she feels guilty for not disclosing her relationship with Brynn sooner and expresses resentment towards their friendship's fracture. Emily's belief that a true friend would be happy for them underscores their strained connection, and the protagonist realizes that any further apology would simply seem desperate, as tensions lie unresolved.

Looking at the stark contrast between their messages, the protagonist is



overwhelmed by the chasm that has formed between them, fueled by pain, anger, and regret. Recognizing the gravity of the situation, she puts her phone away and heads home, reflecting on how swiftly friendships can fray and the importance of communication in maintaining them.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 44:

In Chapter 44, the protagonist, Ceej, is feeling down after a recent experience at Asilomar when her aunt Hannah arrives to lift her spirits. Hannah, who has a more relaxed approach than Ceej's mother, insists that spending time in nature will help. Together, they take a leisurely walk in the open-space preserve, an area with beautiful meadows and vibrant wildflowers—a setting that encourages a hopeful mindset.

As they walk, Hannah encourages Ceej to share something happy, leading Ceej to reflect on their successful school board presentation. Although this achievement brings her some pride, she wrestles with whether her mother would genuinely share in that pride, fearing disappointment due to her own feelings of inadequacy. Hannah, emphasizing the challenge of having an accomplished mother like Ceej's, reassures her that while their mother may not openly express her pride, she does believe in Ceej's potential.

Despite Ceej's frustrations regarding her mother's expectations, Hannah's supportive words help her realize that she needs to define her own success and find joy in being true to herself. They humorously discuss a speech Hannah read online before returning to practical matters regarding Heart's Desire, their family business, which is facing challenges. Hannah stands firm that the Katsuyamas never give up, planning to discuss tactics with Ceej's mother.



The chapter concludes with Ceej pondering what success really entails for her and whether she wants to pursue conventional greatness or find happiness in everyday moments. Hannah’s parting advice underscores that it is up to Ceej to decide what “great” means for her life.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Why Bookey is must have App for Book Lovers



30min Content

The deeper and clearer interpretation we provide, the better grasp of each title you have.



Text and Audio format

Absorb knowledge even in fragmented time.



Quiz

Check whether you have mastered what you just learned.



And more

Multiple Voices & fonts, Mind Map, Quotes, IdeaClips...

Free Trial with Bookey



Chapter 45 Summary:

In Chapter 45, the protagonist finds herself unexpectedly thrust into the role of the school's go-to supplier for promposal flowers. This change is driven by a combination of her enthusiastic marketing efforts and referrals from peers, notably Sabrina, who is exploring a budding romance with Owen. However, as the promposal season unfolds, she grows increasingly discontent with the lack of creativity in the requests she receives. Most students settle for tired clichés—dozen roses accompanied by overly simplistic rhymes that lack originality. Despite her humorous frustrations, which include a growing disdain for the forced cheerfulness surrounding promposals, she grapples with deeper feelings of isolation.

Her close friends, Owen and Emily, are noticeably absent from her life—Owen has stopped working at Heart's Desire, and Emily has distanced herself following an incident at a party. The protagonist reflects on her desire for a meaningful connection with them, wishing to share fun facts about flowers, seek camaraderie, and find comfort in their shared experiences. Instead, she is plagued by repetitive thoughts of regret and heartache over their strained friendships and her family's disarray.

Amidst her emotional turmoil, she battles with the feeling of responsibility for the rifts that have formed, feeling like she might be to blame for the unraveling of their bonds. Despite her burgeoning sadness, she recognizes

More Free Book



Scan to Download

that she cannot change the past or the choices made, leaving her to contend with the weight of her loneliness as prom season continues unabated.

In Chapter 46, she enters a deeper reflection on the intersections between love, friendship, and personal growth, questioning her role in the relationship dynamics that have changed so drastically. Striving for inner peace, she confronts her pain and attempts to embrace the joys that others find in moments like prom, even while feeling disconnected from them herself. As she weaves through her complex emotions, she contemplates the importance of relationships and the heartache that can arise when they falter. Ultimately, it's a struggle to maintain hope for reconciliation with her friends and for finding acceptance amidst the chaos of her current life.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 46 Summary:

In Chapter 46, Brynn takes an audacious step to ask Emily to prom, planning a grand gesture that captivates the entire school. The scene is set with the school marching band performing a reggae rendition of “Can’t Help Falling in Love,” while cameras from the school newspaper capture every moment. As the band concludes their performance, they form the message “P R O M?” visible to Emily.

In a dramatic flourish, Brynn presents Emily with a vibrant bouquet of multicolored roses and drops to one knee, declaring her love before the gathered crowd. The moment is filled with anticipation and romance, showcasing Brynn's considerable effort and devotion. However, the atmosphere takes a sharp turn when Emily, seemingly overwhelmed, responds with an abrupt “I’m sorry,” and runs off, leaving the crowd in stunned silence.

As the disappointment washes over the crowd with a collective gasp, the mood shifts. The photographer and reporter, Geoffrey Acosta and Keila Padilla, capture the moment of unexpected rejection. The narrator, anticipating a mix of satisfaction from witnessing Brynn's elaborate plan unravel, instead feels an unsettling sadness and confusion about the situation. Emily’s earlier claim that the narrator “ruined everything” lingers in their mind, suggesting deeper conflicts and unresolved feelings that may



have impacted the outcome of this pivotal moment.

This chapter highlights the complexities of young love and the pressure of expectations, especially in a high school setting where public gestures can lead to profound vulnerability and heartache.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 47 Summary:

In Chapter 47, CJ receives a text from Brynn, urgently asking to meet after school. Despite initially declining due to work commitments, CJ agrees to meet Brynn at a café called Purple Onion. When CJ arrives, she finds Brynn visibly distressed, looking unlike her usual radiant self. Brynn eventually confides that her girlfriend, Emily, has broken up with her, prompting an empathetic, albeit awkward, conversation.

As Brynn struggles with her emotions, she reminisces about the past, specifically a traumatic event from eighth grade that has haunted both of them. CJ remembers how Brynn humiliated Emily years ago, leading to deep-seated anger toward her. The conversation delves into their shared history, revealing the complexities of Brynn's actions at that time. Brynn explains that she was under immense pressure from her homophobic father and friends, which caused her to panic and hurt Emily, highlighting the difficult circumstances that shaped her behavior.

While CJ initially holds on to her anger and resentment toward Brynn, they gradually engage in a more honest dialogue. CJ reflects on how Brynn's past actions had affected their friendship and Emily's feelings, ultimately navigating the waters of forgiveness and understanding. Brynn admits she felt trapped and was motivated by a desire to gain acceptance, even at the cost of others' feelings.



As their conversation progresses, it shifts toward Brynn's current relationship with Emily. Brynn reveals that Emily thinks she is using their relationship for publicity, particularly with the attention surrounding them being recognized as a queer couple at prom. CJ acknowledges that she might have unintentionally contributed to that perception, and Brynn explains her intention to raise visibility for queer relationships, even if it comes with challenges for Emily, who is more introverted.

The chapter closes with CJ recognizing the need for empathy, despite past grievances. She offers to help Brynn mend her relationship with Emily, indicating her willingness to put aside personal grievances for the sake of her friend. The development of their conversation transitions from animosity to a more refreshed understanding between them, setting the stage for potential reconciliation and growth.

Overall, this chapter emphasizes themes of forgiveness, the impact of past actions on present relationships, and the importance of empathy in navigating complex emotional landscapes.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 48:

In the final week of March, Hannah is unexpectedly cheerful despite the looming crisis of Heart's Desire, the family flower shop, which is on the verge of financial collapse. Her upbeat demeanor catches the attention of her friend, who notices Hannah humming a particular tune associated with new romances. Upon pressing her, Hannah reveals she is dating Richard, a customer from earlier in the year who had sought her advice on flower arrangements for his various dates. Although their initial attempts at matchmaking didn't lead to successful relationships, Hannah recounts how a deeper connection formed between them when he returned for a boutonniere, admitting that he thought of her throughout his dates.

As Hannah shares her excitement about Richard, the conversation shifts to more serious matters. Concerned about the shop's future, her friend inquires about discussions with their mother regarding the store's fate. Hannah discloses her attempts to organize a fundraising event with the help of their mother's connections, but realizes the enormity of the task and acknowledges her own denial about the shop's viability. She comes to the conclusion that selling the property is the most sensible option. In a surprising twist, she also expresses her belief that Richard might be "the One," suggesting a hasty transition into a new phase of life.

Hannah's easygoing approach to love and life starkly contrasts with the

More Free Book



Scan to Download

weight of responsibility carried by their mother, who has fought to preserve their family's legacy. This deeply unsettles her friend, who grapples with feelings of disappointment as she sees her sister's tendency to float through relationships without consideration of consequence. The chapter ends on an introspective note, with her friend reflecting on the burdens their mother has borne for their sake, recognizing the emotional divide between her and Hannah. As the sister's carefree attitude clashes with their mother's somber realism, the undertones of familial duty and the weight of their shared history become increasingly apparent.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Positive feedback

Sara Scholz

...tes after each book summary
...erstanding but also make the
...and engaging. Bookey has
...ling for me.

Fantastic!!!



I'm amazed by the variety of books and languages Bookey supports. It's not just an app, it's a gateway to global knowledge. Plus, earning points for charity is a big plus!

Masood El Toure

Fi



Ab
bo
to
my

José Botín

...ding habit
...o's design
...ual growth

Love it!



Bookey offers me time to go through the important parts of a book. It also gives me enough idea whether or not I should purchase the whole book version or not! It is easy to use!

Wonnie Tappkx

Time saver!



Bookey is my go-to app for summaries are concise, ins curated. It's like having acc right at my fingertips!

Awesome app!



I love audiobooks but don't always have time to listen to the entire book! bookey allows me to get a summary of the highlights of the book I'm interested in!!! What a great concept !!!highly recommended!

Rahul Malviya

Beautiful App



This app is a lifesaver for book lovers with busy schedules. The summaries are spot on, and the mind maps help reinforce wh I've learned. Highly recommend!

Alex Walk

Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 49 Summary:

Chapter 49 Summary:

When I arrive at Emily's house, Mrs. Baxter welcomes me warmly, but there's an undercurrent of tension as she directs me to Emily's room. Upon entering, I find Emily sitting on her bed, visibly upset, her body language radiating hostility. She coldly questions my intentions, clearly hurt by recent events.

I take a seat beside her and try to explain that I'm here to apologize, not to gloat about her breakup with Brynn, despite her belief that my previous criticisms of their relationship were vindicated. Emily expresses her anger and disappointment in both Brynn and me, pointing out how my admission of Brynn's betrayal during a pivotal moment in their friendship came too late, and only out of spite. I struggle to justify my actions as I acknowledge that she's right, feeling the weight of my past decisions.

The conversation deepens as Emily confronts me with the painful memory of Brynn's actions in eighth grade, highlighting how my late revelation only hurt her further. We reminisce about previous painful moments, including a specific school board meeting where I attempted to warn her but was dismissed. I reflect on how difficult it was to bring up such painful truths



and how my desire to protect her ultimately led to greater suffering.

Emily grapples with her feelings about Brynn, expressing both anger and lingering affection while admitting how humiliating Brynn's grand proposal was for her. As she talks, I recognize the complexity of their relationship and the irony of my own feelings toward Brynn. The discussion shifts as Emily admits her emotional turmoil about Brynn's actions and her wish to return to happier times, which prompts me to reflect on our own friendship and the changes we've experienced.

I share my insecurities about our friendship and how the shift in Emily's social life made me feel disconnected. Emily reassures me that we are still friends, and as we reflect on the past, there's a mutual understanding of our friendship's importance. She shares her perspective on the proposal with a mix of embarrassment and humor.

I attempt to encourage Emily to see the potential triumph in Brynn's visibility and pride about her identity, suggesting that it could represent something larger than just Brynn's ambitions. Though hesitant, Emily begins to consider the possibility of reconnecting with Brynn, albeit without any commitment, indicating a spark of hope for the future.

Here, we see shades of hurt, misunderstanding, and the potential for reconciliation, underscoring the theme of personal growth as both characters

More Free Book



Scan to Download

navigate complicated emotions stemming from love and friendship.

Chapter 50 Summary:

In the aftermath of our emotionally charged conversation, we begin to explore what it means for Emily to move forward, be that with Brynn or without. Emily is cautiously optimistic but firm, recognizing that she holds the power to decide her future.

As our dialogue continues, I support Emily in understanding her own feelings—emphasizing that any reconciliation should be on her terms. This pivotal moment challenges her to confront her emotions honestly while navigating her self-worth apart from Brynn’s actions.

The chapter delves into how relationships, romantic or platonic, share a common thread of vulnerability and the need for honesty. We ultimately arrive at the idea that healing can come from making tough decisions and embracing change, whether that leads Emily back to Brynn, with necessary boundaries, or toward a new path altogether.

In this way, the story illustrates not just the entanglements of teenage love but the nurturing of friendships that can withstand misunderstandings. It leaves the door open for growth and new beginnings, inviting readers to

More Free Book



Scan to Download

reflect on the nuances of love, loss, and friendship as Emily contemplates her next steps.

More Free Book 



Scan to Download

Chapter 50 Summary:

In the charming setting of Muir Woods National Monument, Ceej and Owen revel in the majesty of ancient redwoods as they explore a unique, burned-out trunk of a giant tree. The forest, known for its towering trees that are almost impossible to kill and that thrive despite adversity, provides a backdrop for their growing bond. Initially a quiet drive to the park had left Ceej apprehensive about the outing, but the enchanting atmosphere quickly shifts her spirits.

Ceej is grateful to Hannah for suggesting the trip, as the woods help mend the tension between her and Owen. Each word spoken in the quiet sanctuary allows them to unpack the complications of their recent interactions, especially concerning their friend Brynn. They share an honest moment, with Owen apologizing for misjudging their committee dynamic and recognizing Ceej's efforts in encouraging Brynn to take responsibility for her actions. In a surprising twist, they discover a new appreciation for fellow committee member Shane, who has stepped up to support their cause in unexpected ways.

As they lean against a sun-soaked boulder surrounded by ferns, Ceej contemplates her feelings toward Owen, unsure if their budding relationship could be more than friendship. This caution arises from a fear of repeating past mistakes. However, urged by the serene environment, she clasps Owen's

More Free Book



Scan to Download

hand, and he reciprocates, establishing a connection that feels both comforting and exciting.

Owen expresses his desire to explore their relationship without the pressure of labels like ‘love,’ which resonates deeply with Ceej. They share a tender moment, culminating in gentle kisses that signify a new chapter in their lives. This exchange of kisses serves as a powerful “welcome” into their evolving relationship, imbued with possibility and the thrill of new beginnings.

As they find solace in each other’s embrace, Ceej feels a sense of liberation—she is ready to step into the unknown, inspired by Hannah's carefree spirit. The kiss marks a pivotal moment, symbolizing a transition from uncertainty to the promise of new adventures together, allowing her to envision a future unencumbered by past mistakes. In this fleeting yet profound moment, they are caught on the precipice of something beautiful, and the world around them fades, leaving only the resonance of connection and the allure of exploration ahead.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 51 Summary:

Chapter 51 Summary:

In the heart of Silicon Valley, Sand Hill Road is a bustling hub for venture capital firms that fund major tech startups, including industry giants like Amazon, Google, and Facebook. Among these firms, McAllister Venture Capital stands out as one of the pioneers. They not only hold significant financial power but also a legacy tied to the school's name—named after Trey McAllister's grandfather, a controversial figure in history.

In a bold move, CJ and a group of friends decide to confront Trey McAllister to seek funding for a deeply personal initiative: renaming a school that bears his grandfather's name, associated with the unjust internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. They recognize that the school board has cited a lack of funds as a key objection to the proposed name change; hence, a million-dollar request from a wealthy venture capitalist seems fitting to support their cause.

To grab Trey's attention, they begin delivering extravagant bouquets to his office—120 roses for the interned and 2,000 carnations representing the estimated lost income during their confinement. The effort makes a striking statement, creating a vibrant scene in the lobby filled with flowers, as the

More Free Book



Scan to Download

group hopes to convey the significance of their cause.

Eventually, Trey and CJ's mother, who works in the same firm, meet with the group. The atmosphere is tense; CJ introduces his friends, hands Trey a mixed bouquet symbolic of hope and compassion, and makes a compelling pitch. He highlights that the objection to the renaming is racially motivated, and the only logical concern relates to funding. Despite the gravity of the conversation, Trey's responses remain guarded.

CJ asserts that funding the name change would help put the McAllister family “on the right side of history.” He emphasizes the moral obligation to acknowledge and rectify historical injustices, arguing that refusing to engage signals a lack of concern for the implications of the grandfather’s legacy. Although CJ garners some of Trey's attention, the meeting concludes without a clear resolution. Trey promises to consider their request but redirects the conversation, indicating he has pressing commitments.

Feeling defeated yet resolute, the group receives the brusque conclusion of the meeting, ushered out by security guards as their proposal hangs in the balance.

Chapter 52 Summary:

The narrative of Chapter 52 escalates the emotional stakes as CJ and his

More Free Book



Scan to Download

friends grapple with the outcome of their bold initiative. After the meeting, they reconvene to discuss the implications of their visit and the next steps to take. They are conflicted—a mix of hope and disappointment, knowing they had the courage to confront an influential figure. But they also understand that real change requires more than just a meeting; it needs a sustained effort and broader support.

The group debates their options, considering ways to increase public awareness about the name change and build momentum for their cause. They leverage social media and engage their community to rally support, championing awareness and education around the historical injustices connected with the school's namesake.

CJ reflects on the importance of their mission—not just for their school, but as a larger stand against racism, injustice, and the erasure of history. Fueled by determination, they strategize on galvanizing their peers and allies, instilling hope that their efforts might compel Trey McAllister to reconsider his position.

As they brainstorm, the friends experience a renewed sense of purpose, ready to push back against inertia and make their voices heard. They vow not to give up in the face of resistance, understanding that change is a process that requires persistence, solidarity, and unwavering commitment.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

With an air of resolve, CJ leads the group in a call to action, reinforcing that their fight is not only about renaming a school but also about reclaiming a narrative and fostering a sense of justice and dignity for all affected. The chapter closes with a sense of determination, highlighting their mission to challenge the status quo and strive for meaningful change in their community.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 52:

In this chapter, the protagonist, Ceej, emerges from a tense confrontation with Trey, who has dismissed their efforts as if they were inconsequential. Overwhelmed and shaken, Ceej receives supportive hugs from her friends Emily and Owen, who insist that their actions were still a moment of triumph despite Trey's disregard. Nikki, another friend, has recorded the event and sent a statement advocating for their cause, hinting that they have the power to shape the narrative.

Despite the reassurances from her friends, Ceej grapples with self-doubt and regrets the confrontation, particularly worrying about her mother's reaction. She fears that her mother saw only failure, not the act of standing up for her beliefs. Owen, trying to uplift her spirits, takes Ceej to Heart's Desire, a comforting space where Hannah, a supportive figure, offers her care and a cup of tea meant to symbolize justice.

Owen, wanting to lift Ceej's mood, presents her with a makeshift gift of three irises representing a noble heart and a pine cone that signifies hope in adversity, creatively repurposed from their earlier golf course escapade. Although Ceej appreciates the gesture, her doubts linger, leaving her uncertain about how their actions will be received beyond their immediate circle. The chapter underscores themes of resilience, hope, and the struggle for validation in the face of perceived failure, setting the stage for the



characters' development and the growth of their mission.

Install Bookey App to Unlock Full Text and Audio

Free Trial with Bookey





Read, Share, Empower

Finish Your Reading Challenge, Donate Books to African Children.

The Concept



This book donation activity is rolling out together with Books For Africa. We release this project because we share the same belief as BFA: For many children in Africa, the gift of books truly is a gift of hope.

The Rule



Earn 100 points

Redeem a book

Donate to Africa

Your learning not only brings knowledge but also allows you to earn points for charitable causes! For every 100 points you earn, a book will be donated to Africa.

Free Trial with Bookey

Chapter 53 Summary:

In Chapter 53, the protagonist, CJ, spends a troubled evening at her friend Owen's house, feeling unable to face her mother after a recent embarrassment at school. Owen, supportive and caring, eventually drives her home, where she finds her home shrouded in darkness. As CJ enters her room, her mother knocks on the door, initiating a tense conversation about CJ's reckless behavior at the MVC event that day. While CJ initially fears her mother's anger, she is relieved to discover that her mother is actually proud of her creativity and audacity. However, CJ struggles to accept this praise, feeling weighed down by her perceived failures and the pressure to meet her mother's high expectations.

The discussion becomes more intense as CJ unearths deeper insecurities, expressing doubts about whether her existence has put a burden on her mother. Her mother explains the harsh realities of being a working woman and a parent, recounting how motherhood has impacted her career. This admission opens a dialogue about regret, expectations, and the challenges of balancing aspirations with the demands of parenting. CJ becomes emotional as she expresses her fear of not living up to her mother's expectations, and they both break down into tears, acknowledging their struggles and misunderstandings.

The conversation shifts to affirmations, with the mother encouraging CJ to

More Free Book



Scan to Download

pursue her own dreams rather than live in the shadow of her ambitions. She highlights CJ's courage in confronting powerful figures, suggesting that such audacity indicates CJ will ultimately be alright. This heartfelt moment concludes with CJ receiving a handmade arrangement from her mother upon returning from school, symbolizing love, hope, and the bond they share despite their challenges.

In the brief context provided about the Katsuyama family, it is revealed that in April 2019, McAllister Venture Capital acquires Heart's Desire and renames it in honor of Frank Katsuyama, the family's patriarch. The company commits to supporting underrepresented minorities in leadership, while Mimi and Hannah Katsuyama move on to new endeavors, reflecting on their shared legacy and the tumult of change within their family dynamics.

More Free Book



Scan to Download

Chapter 54 Summary:

In this chapter, the protagonist reflects on life's transitions while enjoying breakfast with her friend Emily at a café. The chapter opens with Brynn, a newly crowned lesbian prom queen, making headlines. Brynn exudes confidence, celebrating her success despite attending the event solo, and she is surrounded by supportive friends, including a girl with a unique style that adds a vibrant touch to the gathering.

As Emily and the protagonist reminisce about their own experiences, the conversation shifts to a recent event they attended—Hannah's last gala for Heart's Desire, a beloved community center that has been pivotal in their lives. The protagonist shares her mixed feelings about the evening, where heartfelt speeches from a couple celebrating their enduring love prompted emotional responses, reflecting not only on the beauty of relationships but also on her own views about love and commitment.

Emily playfully imagines a future where the protagonist and her boyfriend Owen share similar romantic milestones, but the protagonist dismisses the idea, feeling the weight of impending responsibilities like college and standardized testing pressing down on her. She expresses frustration with the expectations surrounding her, particularly regarding her college prospects and her accomplishments, or lack thereof. Despite her jokes about her achievements, she reveals a desire for recognition for her involvement in a



local project, STORM, and her former floral design business, though she notes that both are in uncertain states following changes in community leadership.

The loss of Heart's Desire looms large in their conversation. The protagonist muses about the upcoming transformation of the center into a corporate space, reflecting on how while it may change physically, its intended mission of fostering happiness and opportunity will remain. Emily's nostalgia for Heart's Desire elicits a deeper discussion about fate and change. The protagonist expresses skepticism about viewing their circumstances as predetermined, emphasizing the importance of agency in the face of challenges. She believes in acknowledging past mistakes without allowing them to define the future.

Overall, this chapter encapsulates themes of growth, resilience, and the complex emotions tied to change, ultimately advocating for a proactive approach to life's hurdles rather than succumbing to a fatalistic attitude.

More Free Book



Scan to Download