



Season 5, Episode 49: A Group Show - Would You Rather?

Mon, Jul 17, 2023 • 59:53

Meredith Monday Schwartz 00:10

Hey readers. Welcome to the currently reading podcast. We are bookish best friends who spend time every week talking about the books that we've read recently. And as you know, we won't shy away from having strong opinions. So get ready.

Kaytee Cobb 00:24

We are light on the chit chat. Sometimes heavy on the book talk sometimes and our descriptions will always be spoiler free. Today we have a very special episode for you.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 00:34

I'm Meredith Monday, Schwartz, a mom of four and full time CEO living in Austin, Texas. And I would rather be talking about books today than doing anything else.

Kaytee Cobb 00:44

And I'm Kaytee Cobb. I'm a homeschooling mom of four living in New Mexico. And I am thrilled to play a new game with my book besties This is episode number 49 of season five. We are so glad you're here. And we are so glad to have Mary and Roxanna here with us.

Mary Heim 00:59

Yay. So glad to be here.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 01:01

Hi, all can't wait.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 01:03

The whole gang is here Kaytee and I am so excited that you have come up with a great new game for us to play for this one of these end of Season special episodes.

Kaytee Cobb 01:15

I am so excited to play along with everyone we've done Ask Us Anything episodes we've done. I can't remember the other things we've done or haven't

Mary Heim 01:24

Never have I ever

Kaytee Cobb 01:25

Right. We've done Never Have I Ever episodes. So this year, we are trying something new. Meredith alluded to it in her bite size intro. We're going to play would you rather bookish addition. And so we have had a lot of fun devising nefarious bookish, would you rather questions for each other.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 01:42

Yes, I'm so excited about this. We're gonna have some bookish conundrums. Alright, are we ready to jump into it? Oh, yeah. All right. So we're gonna start out with each prepared a question for the other hosts. And we've each prepared a group question. Roxanna, as our newest member, do you want to start us out with a group question?

Roxanna Kassam Kara 02:04

Sure. I'm so excited about this. I can't wait to hear everybody's answers. Okay. This question is not at all influenced by what's been going on in my life recently.

Kaytee Cobb 02:13

Oh, I'm sure.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 02:16

Would you rather read a really great, interesting page turning book that you've been waiting for, with your whole family in the same room at the same time? Or would you rather read a boring book that you're really not into, but you're alone in your room?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 02:34

Oh, that's a terrible one. That's a That's a really tough one to start on. Oh, my gosh, Mary,

Roxanna Kassam Kara 02:43

all of mine are terrible fyi. Okay.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 02:45

All right. You really, you really gave it your all on this. Mary, what are you thinking for this?

Mary Heim 02:50

You know, while I agree that it is cutthroat, I feel like a lot of my readings since having a kid and now I'm just starting to come out of this phase because she's just about to be four. But I'm like, Well, I read a book I'm really into with my whole family in the room all the time anyways, so that doesn't sound quite so terrible if I want to get my reading. And so while I can understand the conundrum, I feel like I gotta go that way. Because sticking me in a solo alone room with a book I'm not into sounds like torture right now. So I'm gonna go with the alternative for sure.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 03:21

All right, Kaytee, what about you?

Kaytee Cobb 03:23

Well, I think they both sound like torture, I would rather read a book that I am not enjoying with my whole family around. But I realized that was not one of the two options. So I am also going to choose the book that I'm really loving, because I think as a homeschool mom, I have gotten better at tuning out the extraneous noise of the other people in my family. So I'm gonna go with the book I really love and still have them around because they're around all the time anyway. Honestly.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 03:52

All right. I'm gonna go with a book that I'm not as into but in the complete quiet. Summer has started you guys Jackson is home a lot more than normal. He is on me like white on rice. And I am just feeling that feeling that I get when I can't get quiet, concentrated reading. So I'm gonna go with I think even a mediocre book in the complete quiet would be more restorative for me right now.

Kaytee Cobb 04:21

How about you Roxanna a dose of your own medicine?

Roxanna Kassam Kara 04:25

I'm honestly shocked by your answers. And maybe this reaffirms, to me like I should never have had a family because I will always choose alone. Always 100% She's alone. And I'm always with people. And I'm always like, Why are these people here? Why are you here? Especially if I have a book because I always have a book. So that doesn't signal to anybody that they can interrupt me and I have a very low I'm an extrovert, but I have a very low threshold for lots of external stimuli. And I have very loud children, a very quiet husband actually, but a very, very loud children. And so The second one of them is talking to me I snap like about why can't you I can't like if two of them are talking together, I just lose it. I'm much better now. But I would 100% Choose a book I'm not into with quiet time, then like a book I love with all of them. I would just like it would be that head exploding emoji right away, right?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 05:17

You wouldn't love the book. I mean, that's the thing is that I feel like in some ways, I'm not really making a choice, because I wouldn't even get the benefit of that book in that situation. And I, it would become a mediocre book, right? And I to spend a lot of my time thinking, how can I simultaneously love these people so much, and so want them to go away? How is that possible for me to hold that in myself?

Kaytee Cobb 05:44

I was just at the hospital with a friend this week. And we were like sitting quietly together in the waiting room while her husband had surgery. We were talking about like, well, if you know the worst happened, and we were ever single on the other side of marriage, I would never live with somebody ever. No, I wouldn't be like bye children bye other humans bye

Meredith Monday Schwartz 06:03

I would never get married again. I never I never ever would for sure. All right. That was a good one to start us off with that was a quality which would you rather question. Thank you so much. Okay, we're gonna get into some individually crafted questions here. So Mary, what is your individually crafted which would you rather for Roxanna?

Mary Heim 06:22

Okay, Roxanna, maybe was this inspired by your most recent Fourth Wing discussion with Meredith 100%? Would you rather be allowed to only read mediocre ACOTAR fanfic within the fantasy genre Or have to give up fantasy entirely is my question for you. Pulling no punches.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 06:48

You wait, Mary, you wait till my question comes through? No, I just have to say, I was gonna choose between two now I know which one.

Mary Heim 06:57

Okay, I'll prepare.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 06:59

I would rather not read any fantasy. Because if I read mediocre ACOTAR fanfic, I would just be like, What am I doing with my life? I hate this. And it would just like I would hate read it all the way through. And so then, and I would know that it's like eating a chocolate cake from a vending machine. But you can see the really good chocolate cake. You don't from the bakery. That's right there. But you can only get the hostess cake from the vending machine. It's like, well, what's the point? At that point I can see it but I can't eat it. So why am I going to this hostess cake is doing nothing for me. So I would just swear off it and bitch on Instagram all the time that I couldn't read it because of Mary Heim. Wow. Wow.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 07:40

That in your all of a sudden, your Instagram feed would be a lot more interesting. I mean, it's already good, but it would be really interesting.

Mary Heim 07:47

A whole new tone Bookstagram anymore. It's something else entirely.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 07:53

Bitchstagram, yeah.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 08:01

All right, good. Okay. All right. So then Roxanna, let's let you have your moment in the sun. What is your question for Mary?

Roxanna Kassam Kara 08:08

Oh, I'm so excited. Okay, Mary, this is also like all my Would You Rather these are uncomfortable situations. Okay. So you're a therapist. I'm going to set it up this way. This question is about steamy romances. Okay, like super spicy five alarm romances. Would you rather have a super spicy romance in paperback with the worst cheesy cover ever? Okay, worst cover and it's sitting in your office and one of your clients, one of your patients sees it as they walk in? Or would you rather have it on audio and it accidentally goes off like a snippet goes off during Charlotte's playgroup with all your mom friends?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 08:50

Well, we have unearthed a talent in Roxanna that I was not aware of

Kaytee Cobb 08:57

diabolical.

Mary Heim 08:59

The level of detail, but up to this Roxanna is next level, what would I choose? I mean, okay, are the children playing? Are they like off at the No, no,

Roxanna Kassam Kara 09:11

no, they're the mom. Oh, no, no, it's like one of those music round play groups, the teachers there, she's giving you a really dirty look like it's the whole thing. All right,

Mary Heim 09:20

well, then I have to pick Licensing Board of the state of Wisconsin do not revoke my license to practice, please. I feel like I have to pick the former. And here's why. Because the most interesting things can become therapeutic in conversation. So here, maybe this is something that can lead to conversation with my clients and listen, they don't know maybe the book isn't quite as steamy as it looks. It's up to them then to go like check it out from the library and read it and be like, Wow, my therapist is spicier. But there's no question if my air pods if my earbuds go off or it starts my audio Like starts playing which also wouldn't I could never did you see my visceral reaction when your spicy audiobook I was like,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 10:06

okay. But Mary what if the cover was not a Fabio bodice ripper? It was a dragon with two peens it was that cover?

Mary Heim 10:18

I mean, can you see the two peens? No. Is it like the drill to nobody or

Kaytee Cobb 10:22

as his arm like wrapped around her neck and there's like chain? Yeah, it's the beat

Roxanna Kassam Kara 10:27

or it's a Kraken or something.

Mary Heim 10:29

I feel like I still have to do that. Maybe I then find a reason to refer that client out and never see them again and they could crawl in a hole and die but still have to choose. That is my option. Before I would bury myself in my own grave. Steamy audio book started playing at Charlotte's playgroup I, Roxanna, that was, that is diabolical. Okay.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 10:55

All right. I'm gonna ask Roxanna, my question of her and we're gonna get her back. All right, here you go. Would you rather you and I be able to continue to buddy read together for the rest of our lives until we're old and gray? Or would you rather us live down the street from each other, but we could never talk about books again.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 11:17

It would be the first because that's what we've been doing for three years. And we have a great relationship. We're best friends. So I feel like I would love to see you. But if I could never talk about books with you,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 11:28

then I'm worthless to you.

Kaytee Cobb 11:30

What is the point of Meredith.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 11:34

I get it. Yeah.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 11:36

Your value in my life. Meredith. Without that, let me tell you, would it be so hard? So I'd be like, but I read Oh, okay. So let's talk about this movie or something. It would just be so unsatisfying, and like there'd be a whole part of our relationship. No, I Yeah. No, it would be the first for sure. Okay. So of course, if I could have both, like, if I could have you around, I would for sure do that. Right. But I couldn't give up our book conversation or buddy reads or any of that. All right, good. Okay. I like

Meredith Monday Schwartz 12:00

I like the answer to that for sure. All right. Kaytee, do you want to ask me your question?

Kaytee Cobb 12:06

I do. One of them was pretty similar to the one that Roxana asked Mary, but very specific to Meredith. Okay, so I think I'm gonna go with it. Because it's just for you. All right. Meredith, would you rather have to listen to romance in your ears, all romance all the time in your ears. That's the only audiobooks you can listen to. Or you have to play the most graphic scenes of your murder books out loud through speakers in public while you walk around the neighborhood. And they're just hearing like, and then her decapitated body was rotting in the cellar like,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 12:45

I mean, what does it say about me that this is easy for me to say I would rather go with the latter than the former, I would much rather I feel like I am loud and proud with my murder books like

Kaytee Cobb 12:57

See, I was relying on introversion that somebody would be like, Ma'am, what are you listening to? And you would be like, never talk to me again.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 13:02

No, see, my introvertedness goes to me wanting to be alone, not me being worried what other people think about like, I actually feel like, I would probably make a lot of friends in the neighborhood where they be like, that book sounded really great. Like I'm actually thinking about that as a new way of listening to audiobooks in my neighborhood. You've given me an idea. People would be like, it is true crime

Kaytee Cobb 13:26

stuck in the 90s. When people had like boom boxes on their shoulders. They're like, rocking around with like, murder audio, but Right. Right people

Meredith Monday Schwartz 13:33

would be you know, the

Roxanna Kassam Kara 13:33

old lady who lives beside you who never puts back her garbage cans. Oh, she'll be putting back her garbage cans now.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 13:39

Exactly. Right. Right. She doesn't want to run into me and my murder books. But that was a good question. Kaytee. I like that one. But yes, no romance in my ears. Especially if that was all I could have known that. That's an easy, easy choice. All right, let's see. So now I have no discernable system.

Kaytee Cobb 13:57

Well, Roxanna has been asked two I've been asked none.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 13:59

Okay, so Mary, why don't you ask Kaytee a question.

Mary Heim 13:59

Okay. Kaytee I'm very excited about this question this was the first one I came up with. I was like, easy. I've got my question for Kaytee. Would you rather only listen to audiobooks at one speed for the rest of your life or never listen to audiobooks again?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 14:20

Oh, wow.

Mary Heim 14:23

Am I ruining our friendship with this question? Maybe.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 14:26

Oh, this is good.

Kaytee Cobb 14:27

Do I look as disgusted as I feel with you?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 14:30

You do? Yep. All the colors drained from your face.

Kaytee Cobb 14:34

Yeah, I'm like the worst little like yucky face emoji. I think I'm gonna go with never listen again. Oh,

Mary Heim 14:41

I am shocked. Really?

Kaytee Cobb 14:44

I don't think I could ever go back to 1x it is like a painful experience for me. I would rather just be like, well, I guess it's podcast for the rest of my life. I'll learn things that way. I just

Roxanna Kassam Kara 14:56

What if you got used to it like if you listen to music if you listen for a couple weeks you get used to it. That's a good point.

Kaytee Cobb 15:02

no, because it's still really annoys me how how much I'm not getting accomplished at 1x. Because I'm like, I could read this three times faster, literally, than this person is talking. My eyes will move down the page three times faster than this. So I'm like, What am I even doing this? Like, I'm like, my body starts moving slowly. It's like I'm stuck in a time warp. It's really I can't do it. I can't do it. Okay, well, we have to go never again,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 15:29

we have to respect each person's individual answer for these questions. So we'll, we will accept that

Kaytee Cobb 15:35

you guys are horrified. Well, I think of it like I didn't listen to audiobooks until six years ago, maybe, you know, so like, I lived a long, fruitful life before. Right? And I could live a long, fruitful life after that phase of my life. So yeah, I'm sticking with. You had me doubting but I'm sticking with it.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 15:54

Okay, great question, though. Fantastic question. Okay, so Kaytee do you want to ask Roxanna?

Kaytee Cobb 16:01

Okay, Roxanna, I also wanted to pick on your relationship with Meredith, but I'm also going to pick on your relationship with your children. So would you rather your children, be entirely suggestible with

regard to their reading or your reading partner Meredith, be entirely suggestible with regard to her reading?

Roxanna Kassam Kara 16:21

No for sure, my children be entirely suggestible entirely, because I couldn't get Micah to pick up a book. If I threw it on his head. First of all, Kieran will read

Kaytee Cobb 16:30

he just walk around with it. Yeah,

Roxanna Kassam Kara 16:32

like, Yeah, honestly, he would just walk around and just hold his device a little bit higher, so he could see it like it's ridiculous, or play hockey while he balanced it. It's ridiculous. I couldn't get him to read. And also, I actually love that Meredith reads what she reads like, she's telling me about though decapitated body in the writing cellar. And I'm like, This is fabulous, because I'm never gonna read this book, right? Or CLI fi, or whatever it is. And I feel like I've doubled my reading life. So if she was, and this is why I feel like when people are looking for reading partners, I actually really prefer that we don't read the same books as Yes, once in a while, or during a buddy read. It's amazing to say, did you read this chapter, and I read, oh, my God, it's amazing. But if you've had all the same books all the time, like if every book I suggested, Meredith was like, that's great, I'm gonna pick that up. I think our reading lives would be a lot more boring, actually. Then, you know, they wouldn't be as enriching as they are.

Kaytee Cobb 17:21

Okay, but she doesn't have to read the same things as you. She just has to read everything you want her to read?

Roxanna Kassam Kara 17:25

because I'm, like, true crime, like I would never, I would be like, no, no, don't read that. No, no, don't read. And then I wouldn't learn from it, you know, the same way that I do. And she's talking about it. So I hear what you're saying. So it wouldn't be the same thing. But even then, like Meredith picks up genres, I wouldn't touch with a 10 foot pole, and I ended up really enjoying her messages about those. So I think for sure, I'd still I'd have my children be suggestible. First. When you said it, I will admit, I was like, No, I picked Meredith over the children 150 times 100. But then when I heard the question, then I was like, okay, and I just for the audience, I love my children. I'm just, I'm just joking around. I love my right.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 18:01

Yes, you do. You do. You're a great mom. Okay. All right. Mary, do you want to ask me a question?

Mary Heim 18:09

Yeah. Okay. Meredith, would you rather never be allowed to keep a book like physically keep on your shelves, Libraries are immediate read and pass on only or be allowed to keep whatever books you'd like on your shelves, but never be allowed to organize? Or categorize them in any way?

Roxanna Kassam Kara 18:28

Mary? You are so good.

Mary Heim 18:30

Wow, guys, I've discovered a hidden talent. Coming up with terrible Would You Rather?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 18:35

Yes. You guys are so good at this. I think I would rather not keep any books at all. I think I would rather just I mean, my library is fantastic. And yeah, I would have to go with that. Because having, I mean, I spend so much time, especially now that I have my expanded library. I mean, Johnny was asking me the other day he was he was watching the basketball finals. And all of a sudden, at the corner of his eyes, like, what are you doing? You're walking in and out and in? And I'm like, I'm shelving books. And he's like, how can you possibly be messing anymore? I'm like, Well, I had a big pile of books that have come in that I need to shelve and I have like, created the most micro genre way of organizing my books. In fact, my new game when people come over is going to be like, figure out how my books are organized. And I think there's only like three people in the world who are going to cottoned on to it. I mean, it's really bespoke. So yes, I would go library only if I couldn't do that. I would do that for sure. That's a great question.

Kaytee Cobb 19:35

I like it. Okay, so let's do an everyone question.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 19:39

Yes. Thank you. And Mary, do you want to ask us a group question?

Mary Heim 19:44

Sure. Yeah. Okay, friends, would you rather have to reread your least favorite book every month or never read your favorite book ever again.

Kaytee Cobb 19:53

I know mine. I'm never reading my favorite book again.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 19:56

That would be mine too.

Kaytee Cobb 19:57

I think rereading my least favorite book every month would put me in the hugest slump, or be like, oh, shoot, I have to read this stupid book again. And then I would just stop reading. I would be like, well, I guess I'm not reading because I'm not reading that. Yeah.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 20:10

Roxanna, what about you? You have all of us have the biggest re-reader

Roxanna Kassam Kara 20:15

Yeah, but rereading my least favorite book every month, like I just the rest of the month, I'd be like, Oh my god, I gotta read that book again in three weeks? Oh, no.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 20:25

What would it be? What would that but mine would be Me Before You if I had to read it every month.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 20:32

Okay. For me, this is going to be spicy. But Malcolm Gladwell's... his last book. Oh I'll try to remember the name his last book,

Kaytee Cobb 20:40

Blink?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 20:41

Tipping tipping point?

Roxanna Kassam Kara 20:41

No, it's not Tipping Point. It's not Outliers. It's not Blink, I'll look it up. It's his last book. It has to do with race. And there's some gender stuff in there who it was controversial. And it made me really angry. Like, just the way he talked about there was a rape case in there. To me, it was like

Kaytee Cobb 20:57

Talking to Strangers

Roxanna Kassam Kara 20:58

Talking to Strangers. Talking to Strangers. There was some to me some things about race and gender in there. And the way he talked about them in a way that felt kind of casual to me, that really infuriated me. So I would be infuriated one week of every month for the rest of my life. So I feel like even my whole family, the whole ecosystem that I interact with would not do well with that option. yeah. So I'll just give up the Shell Seekers, which would be so sad and would be really break my heart. But I mean, that's the option I

Kaytee Cobb 21:28

have. Right once a month, Mary, even if it was like once a year. I know then maybe Roxanna could do it. I still wouldn't.

Mary Heim 21:36

Even with that question for myself. I'm like, I would get so stuck on how much I hated that book that I'd never read anything. I would just like Stop.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 21:44

What's the book? What's yours?

Mary Heim 21:46

Okay, so like high school, Mary would have said Heart of Darkness. But I haven't read that book in like 15 years, so I can't even remember. But current Mary would say Rebecca. Oh, yeah, no, it's like, Dearly Beloved. It is my

Meredith Monday Schwartz 21:58

I don't like it. I don't like it at all makes

Mary Heim 22:00

me so mad. It Would be Rebecca. Yeah.

Kaytee Cobb 22:03

Mine is Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng. That family makes me furious. I hate that book.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 22:11

I don't think we've ever talked about the books we hate the most. this is such an interesting, interesting question.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 22:15

I was thinking is Survive the Night even worse than Me Before You just as far as just being so disgusted by the lead characters choices and then having to watch that happen over and over again.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 22:28

But the emotional manipulation of Me Before You every every month, and then you're like doing it again and see

Meredith Monday Schwartz 22:35

it coming every single time. Yeah, no, you're right. You're right. No, that's that would be terrible. You're right. I don't think we have ever talked about our most hated or what would be torture for us to have to read over and over again.

Kaytee Cobb 22:46

That's a great question. All right,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 22:48

I'm going to ask a group question. Okay. So, and I'm going to ask you one, that is kind of a positive one instead of two bad things, two good things, which would you rather, okay, so would you rather never have to wait for the release of a book again? So would be like, I want Fredrik Backman's new book, boom, it's there. Or would you want to always have the opportunity to meet your favorite author in person and have a real conversation with them. So not one of those awkward Lit Festival meetings, but like a real, Like they want to talk to you about their book, just as much as you want to talk to them? So which one of those Kaytee which one would you go with?

Kaytee Cobb 23:29

Resident extrovert chiming in? I will meet the authors and go out to coffee, and then we'll have dinner after and there'll be my best friend by the end and we will be best friends forever.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 23:38

I believe that I believe that you would, you would they would want to be best friends with you. Alright, Roxanna, what about you?

Roxanna Kassam Kara 23:44

Well, you know, I read a lot of back lists. So I'm not often waiting on books to come out. So I think it would be meet the author, because I also would like be like, Well, why, you know, how'd you put this in? Or what did this mean? Or what did you think about this? And I think that would be really, really fun. And also, I like when I am waiting for a book. I kind of like the anticipation of like, it's coming. It's just that makes it even more fun.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 24:09

All right, Mary?

Mary Heim 24:09

Yeah. Roxanna, I was thinking the same thing as you I love like the anticipation while I'm like, Oh, I can't wait for this, like I actually can. I'm actually very excited. And counting down until a book I'm eager to read is coming out I love like the moment of excitement, especially if like a book that everybody's excited about. And then we all get it on the same day. And everybody's posting their pictures in the bookish friends group and I'm insert like, I love a moment. That's why I read Fourth Wing when I did so definitely. And also my extraversion is like, let us go out to dinner and I will become best friends with all my favorite authors. And then we'll have like a yearly reading retreat where like me and all of my closest author friends gathered together and let's talk about books. And so yes, 100% That is my choice.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 24:56

Okay, that's a good one. Man. I think that's the Rational choice, there's no question because I mean, all joking aside the idea of being able to have a conversation with a mortals about the book that I just finished with a real one, like a real one Exactly. Or, you know, of course, Louise Penny would be great. Now, yes, this question occurred to me because I am waiting with such bated breath for the next in the Fourth Wing, and also the next Three Pines and the next the follow up to State of Terror and and and so right now that's feeling difficult, but rationally, I know that I will be able to wait, and that that's the better choice. So I would go with that for sure.

Kaytee Cobb 25:36

Okay, but here's my question for all of you. When you have pre ordered a book, you're so excited about it. You cannot wait for Louise Penny, Rebecca Yarros, Hillary Clinton, whoever, to release that next one. And then it shows up, and you've done Meredith stands in front of the door waiting for the UPS guy to actually drop it at your door. Do you like tear into the package sit down immediately and get going? Or are you like, yeah, yeah, I have it. Look how pretty it looks on the bookshelves next to all the other books I want to read. Because that's what I do.

Mary Heim 26:03

Yeah, that 100% That there's like maybe 2% of the time I read it right away. But the rest of the time. It's like, it's here. I'll get to it eventually. Same.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 26:14

No, for Louise Penny, I have cleared the decks I have I am reading nothing. I've created like 24 hours of reading nothing. So I'm really, really, really ready to jump in. I will rip the box open. You know, I will neatly put the box in the recycling but like, I'm not going to just like leave the box there. But I'm going. I'm going to I'm going to start it immediately. And the next Fourth Wing. I mean, oh my god, I probably plan to take the day off

Kaytee Cobb 26:38

work where you read from the front door to the couch,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 26:40

maybe from the recycling bin to the couch.

Kaytee Cobb 26:44

Roxanna, what about you? Do you pick it up right away?

Roxanna Kassam Kara 26:46

No, because of my very first question. The animals in my family will be all over me and will ruin the experience. So I have to I would read it. First of all, I'm a mood reader. So yes, I have to be in the right mood. But also I need like if everybody's at school, and you know, as easy as working. And I have nothing planned then yes. But if it comes at seven o'clock and it's dinnertime, and like I can't just be like Okay, everybody leave me alone for four hours. It just doesn't work that way. So no, then I would wait.

Mary Heim 27:14

The mood reader thing I think is so important. It's so key. I got approved for the second Emmy Emily Wilde world, which y'all know, it was like one of my favorite books last year. And I got it. I was like, I literally gasped from the other room. And Jeremy was like, are you okay? I was like, Yes, this happened. And also I can't read it until October. So yeah, it's gonna be cool. Yeah, some people

Meredith Monday Schwartz 27:36

you have to be in the right mood. And it's not every book by the way that I that I would do that with like, I got approved for the new the follow up to Legends and Lattes, which of course, one of my favorite books of of last year, we all absolutely adored that book. And I knew that I needed to be in the right mood for it. And I that moment wasn't that I was like, Ooh, but I'm so looking forward to when I am in that mood, and it's there for me. So it's a different kind of anticipation for sure.

Kaytee Cobb 28:01

I like it. Okay, I'm going to ask Mary a question. Sorry. I know you're driving. I'm taking over for a second. Well,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 28:07

at this point, I have lost all ability to know who needs to add. So please jump in where you know,

Kaytee Cobb 28:13

folks. Okay, Mary, I again, I have two questions for you. I really want to ask them both. But I'm gonna go with the first one because of what you just said. So Mary, would you rather never get to read in the hammock again? Or never get to read in front of a crackling fire again

Mary Heim 28:37

How dare you? How dare you? Can I have a crackling fire in an ASMR room? Can I be a virtual? Can I have ambiance on the TV? Or is it like a physical

Kaytee Cobb 28:54

it's the physical correctly fires technically what I was talking about

Meredith Monday Schwartz 28:58

but because it is different it's not it's not the same,

Kaytee Cobb 29:01

right? It's there's not the scent. There's not Yeah,

Mary Heim 29:04

even though it is not hammock season in Wisconsin, nine months out of the year, maybe even some would argue like 10 months out of the year. I feel like I would have to give up the crackling fire because hammock reading is such a joy for me like it is it is literally how like when I have had a workday where I have used all my words and I am completely I'm like I'm going to the hammock. I'll see you in 45 minutes. I think I have to give up a crackling

Meredith Monday Schwartz 29:34

fire 10 months out of the year

Mary Heim 29:37

oh yeah hammock because because then I could maybe not like a fire on the ASMR room but maybe I could just like put up a cozy ASMR scene on my television even if it doesn't have a fire and can still be ambiance because I love my hammock reading season so much, Kaytee, that question is also like was risking our friendship Oh no, but I will forgive you.

Kaytee Cobb 30:03

No, I'm worried about the next time I have to record with Mary. Find a way to get vengeance.

Mary Heim 30:09

I will forgive you my friend.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 30:11

Okay. All right. Who? Who? Yeah, where are holes, Roxanna?

Roxanna Kassam Kara 30:17

Okay, I have one from Meredith. Well, I have one for Meredith and Kaytee. Alright, ask you first. Okay. Okay. So this was rather is about Imagine yourself as a writer. Okay. Okay. Would you rather be a writer who wrote an amazing debut, but then had a sophomore slump? And you know, no book after has really measured on one hit wonder? Yeah, and if people keep reading your next books, hoping to get that spark, and it's like, oh, my madman, so you haven't quite lived up? Or would you rather be a writer who wrote a breakout first book, had an amazing follow up. And every book has been better than the last. But each book features a mythical creature with two peens.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 31:04

Oh, man, I think I could really embrace a life where I am an incredible author, that every book is better than the last two people look forward to it. And it has a mythical creature with you. I mean, I feel like that would be so different and memorable. That I feel like I have to choose that one that would be so much better than just one good book that involves no peens

Kaytee Cobb 31:28

two peens over zero.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 31:29

And I was just thinking about your Enneagram oneness, right? Like you're, you know, if you if you had to listen to people be like, Oh, she just wrote this book for a beach house and knowing how how much like you want to do things right. And well, I think that would just kill you inside. Yeah, like, I thought you might go,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 31:43

I can embrace being that. Like, they'll you know, the woman with the two peens on the covers? Yes, I think I could, okay, I could really embrace it.

Kaytee Cobb 31:51

She says this, but when I forward random crap on Instagram, that's like, made me think of you. She's like, the number of people who have sent me this exact video. Is this my brand? And I'm like, Yeah, kinda.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 32:06

Right. Well, I mean, I think those are different things. I mean, to write books that get better and better and better, where every book people are, like, I didn't think that she could get any better. But she has. That seems like so much more interesting than the podcaster who talks about me? You know what I mean? Like that. Legacy wise, I would choose being the author.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 32:27

I hear you, I hear you. That was that was a fun one to ask. I would probably choose the same thing to be honest. Because then like, at least you're known for something and you're having a lot of fun writing them, first of all, and you know, yeah, people who love them really love them. And I would love to go to a dinner party and be like, Yeah, I write books about mythical creatures with two peens and just see what people have to say to that. I think,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 32:47

well, actually, I had a group question that asked something similar that was, would you want to be an author that puts out one incredible book that wins all the prizes, but it's also a commercial success? Right? Like so it's kind of all things to all people, but just one or would you rather be an author that writes a very beloved and well selling series, but has a much smaller you know, you have a beloved but smaller audience like which Roxanna, I'm very interested to know which one you you would choose like, you would sell millions like Harry Potter level sales of the first book, but then you just don't put out another book. That's not like the other ones are bad. You just or you just don't.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 33:32

Oh, okay, I was gonna that makes it harder. It's not like I put out books that are people don't love it. So it'll point out another book I write

Meredith Monday Schwartz 33:39

and no one really knows why.

Mary Heim 33:40

A Harper Lee situation.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 33:42

Yeah, exactly.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 33:43

I think I would do number two, because I think of Travis Baldree and Legends and Lattes. And I think, you know, I could have a really successful career where I'm beloved with certain people, and they love that book, and nobody else has heard of me, and that's fine. Versus the competing with the shadow of why didn't she release a book everybody who meets me every fan? Oh, are you gonna release another book? Did you realize at least another book, and then there's commentary about oh, she's scared that she knows she couldn't top her success and it would always be hanging over me. Whereas if I had like a book that people loved, and I kept writing those books, and they got better, but it was a very focused book and focus following I think I'd be okay with that. Okay, okay.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 34:22

All right. Kaytee, would you choose one or the other?

Kaytee Cobb 34:24

I think that five years of currently reading has made me lean toward the second as well like having a very, not very small but a small group of loyal people that really know you and love you and encourage you and are there for you on your bad days and can't wait to see the next thing that you come up with, even if they're like, I don't know what it's gonna be but I still gonna love it. I can admit that. I very much love that. So that's what I would lean toward. Awesome.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 34:52

Yeah. Mary, what about you? What if you take the first option they would put you on like your Time Magazine's Person of the Year? That's how Big a juggernaut. Roxanna, do you do you now want to revisit this your your answer?

Roxanna Kassam Kara 35:05

No, because I feel like that does like if I was like JK Rowling I haven't. That'd be amazing. Not I don't want to be like JK Rowling. But if I wrote like a Harry Potter, right, right, just to clarify here, but then the shadow of that success and yeah, would be so tough.

Mary Heim 35:19

Yeah, that much attention would stress me out. I feel like I, I love it like a community, I love to, like, have connections with people. And I like to be able to represent myself in relationship not necessarily have like, and I know that's the you know, this is like impossible in the world, people are going to make assumptions on who you are and what you're like, based on how they see you. And you can't control all of that. But it's much less likely, in community where you can have like Katie said, kind of close knit, people really understand what you're about. And it's okay, if it's not massive versus Oh, my God, like how many people are talking about me? What do they think about all of this stuff? And that stresses me out? That's a no, thank you.

Kaytee Cobb 36:02

What about your Meredith?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 36:03

I mean, I think probably I would go with a second option of like, a really beloved series or set of books that people really like, there is something that I like, not about the accolades portion of it. Because I mean, I agree that there could be a lot of stressful stuff. But there's something I like about the mystery portion. The like, why did she only put out that what, like, what's the story there? Because there must be a story, there must be a reason. I like the idea of kind of creating a life because in my mind, I'm so rich from that first book. And so beloved, that like I would be set up for life. And so then I'm interested in what else I could do with the mystery element, or just like completely pivoting to I don't know, I'm gonna go with that first one, because I do. I feel like there's a lot there. That could be very interesting.

Kaytee Cobb 36:55

The pivot part doesn't surprise me. Oh, now you have me be thinking, yeah. Because Meredith loves to be really good at one thing and to be like, now I'm going to try something new, and see if I can get really good at that instead.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 37:05

Yeah, right. Right, exactly. Just that idea of having the bandwidth to be able to do that. And then also having a lot of people being like, why did she never write another book? So okay, all right.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 37:16

Can I just say, that would be an amazing premise for a book like Taylor Jenkins Reid, there's two sisters, one writes one and never writes again. And the other is like a, you know, novelist of the following. Somebody should?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 37:28

Yes, I think there's a lot of really interesting stuff you could do with that. But then you find out that the in fact, there's not two of them, there's just one person.

Mary Heim 37:38

And then one of them dying. They Yeah.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 37:41

Says the mystery lover.

Kaytee Cobb 37:42

Yeah, like Who is Maud Dixon?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 37:45

Or there were two of them. And then one kills the other one, because she decided she, in fact, didn't want to just write that one book. She wanted to write the beloved series.

Kaytee Cobb 37:54

Yeah, whatever the other sister was doing. Yeah, maybe the series writer killed the super successful one off,

Mary Heim 38:01

but she's like, masquerading as her sister.

Kaytee Cobb 38:06

Mm hmm. Yeah,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 38:07

you're right that in the Forbidden Island off Hawaii. I mean, these are gold premises that we people should be running, for sure. All right, who needs to ask or be asked a question? I think I've been

Mary Heim 38:20

asked only asked online. Meredith. Have you asked me, I

Meredith Monday Schwartz 38:24

need to ask you. Okay, here you go. Would you rather read in an isolated cabin with no fireplace? And it's very drafty. And there might be spiders? Or would you rather read in a very noisy coffee shop with bad music and loud conversation?

Kaytee Cobb 38:41

But it's warm and there's good drinks? Yeah.

Mary Heim 38:43

Can I can I have like some noise cancelling headphones?

Kaytee Cobb 38:49

I assume you can also have a blanket in the drafty cabin. Right.

Mary Heim 38:52

Right. Exactly. Oh, that's a tough one. And I can read whatever I want to read. The book is not cheap. Okay. I think I would choose. I think I would choose the coffee shop. Because in this situation, I'm envisioning myself like, well, when I'm done with the coffee shop, I can go back to my beautiful cabin that I'm staying in that doesn't have any spiders. No, I, you know, the noise doesn't bother me as much as it used to. And I do like atmosphere. So I feel like that's probably where this question is anchored for me is like which atmosphere feels nicer to me? And the noisy coffee shop over drafty cabin? Feels like a happier atmosphere for me to be reading and even if I get a little distracted by people around me,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 39:38

okay. All right, Kaytee, I'm also realizing I haven't asked you your question yet. And I'm very interested in your answer to this. This is not necessarily like a horrible diabolical one. It's more like I'm literally curious your answer today. So would you rather for the rest of your life Only do buddy reads or never get to buddy read again? Okay, you can never read book on your own, you can only buddy read or never read a book with people.

Kaytee Cobb 40:05

But I can still talk about the books I read with people. Like I can still I can still go to Katie and be like, I just finished this book, I think you would really love it. I hope you pick it up someday we're not reading it together ever. sad for you? Right? So

Meredith Monday Schwartz 40:19

what I would say is you can talk to people about books unless they have read it too. And you guys get into a conversation about it. Well, that's

Kaytee Cobb 40:27

mean. Right? Right. Okay, I still think I'm gonna go with never buddy read again. Because really, as I did, like, even when I look at my buddy reads over the course of the year, like they are some of my favorite books because of the experience associated with them. But it's probably only 10 to 15% of the books that I read for the whole year. So okay, to have to coordinate every book I want to read and like

find somebody that would walk alongside me to do it, I think would be too hard. And I would miss out on a lot of really great books that way. So I'm gonna go with never buddy read again, even though that hurts me. Okay.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 41:04

Right. Okay. All right. Yeah, I'm trying to get to like, how much does that community aspect add to the reading, but 10 to 15%? That's, that really answers the question. Yeah. Still

Kaytee Cobb 41:16

30 books a year, probably. At least, maybe more? I don't know. Right. Right. Okay, I have one more question for Mary, because I really couldn't choose between the two I chose for her. So Mary, would you rather not have any diet sensitivities, you could eat anything you wanted? Or not have any reading sensitivities? Like, would you rather be able to eat all the cake that you've been missing? Or the pasta? I don't know what all you can, like, solve this eaten? Yeah, every gluten item. Or be like, I can read whatever book I want. Nothing bothers me. I adore all these stories.

Mary Heim 41:52

So no, no experienced triggers for me. You know, I feel like I'm not bothered by what I miss out on from books because of my triggers, except in like very small circumstances. Like very particular scenarios. Like I'll give you an example. I'm very excited to read the new J Ryan Stradal, but I have been staying away. Because particularly in this like, tender time in my life. Yeah, I'm like, there are triggers in here that are big for me. I'm not going to add that on to what I am dealing with personally. So that's a little bit of a bummer. Because like I said, I like to be in a book moment. I like to talk to people about like the it book right now. But I'm less bothered by that. Versus like, are you telling me that I could read the books I'm already reading and enjoying and also eat Girl Scout cookies, then? Yeah, that sounds great. I am no longer celiac. I can have my Girl Scout cookies and enjoy them while I'm reading books that don't bother me. I think that's

Kaytee Cobb 42:56

all right. I like it. I like it. Okay, I have a final.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 43:00

I still have one for you.

Kaytee Cobb 43:01

Oh, okay. Yeah.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 43:02

Okay, Kaytee. I have a diabolical would you round for you? This is where why I wasn't gonna give it up. Oh my god, ask Kaytee this. Okay, so this is about author crushes. Okay, excellent. So would you rather have an author crush that writes a book you hate? And then you've already scheduled a currently reading interview and you have to interview him? Oh, god. Okay, number one. Or would you rather that author crush writes a book? That's amazing. And you love it? And you do the interview for currently reading? And he turns out to be the biggest ass? I

Kaytee Cobb 43:39

knew that was gonna be the end of that question. Dang it.

Mary Heim 43:43

That's our rough one. It's rough. Oh,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 43:49

isn't that effect the second one ruins all books forever. Like the past books. And now all the books are not as good right? For that he's ever written, right?

Kaytee Cobb 44:00

I have had the I'm trying to obliquely refer to a situation where I got to check to and meet someone that I really enjoyed. And they were not what I hadn't like, measured them up to in my mind. And that was horrible. So I think I could fake it till I make it through the shoddy book interview with the person that is really great. Even though I'm like this one. I mean, you've you've been better. But overall, I still adore you. And you're still super kind and generous and awesome. So I think I'm gonna go with option one. I want the really good luck. I just Oh,

Roxanna Kassam Kara 44:42

yeah, with the rest of you do I think this is a good question to ask everybody. Yeah,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 44:45

I mean, I have to return to Amor Towles and think what and now it's an it's an impossibility. It would never have an absolute impossibility. It would never happen. But if he were to put out a book that I legitimately had big feelings about it not being as good or I don't know They just didn't like it or it fell flat for me or I just, you know, hated the ending or something. And then I had I already have this interview. I mean, that would be a terrible situation, for sure. But I do feel like we now five years in have enough experience talking about books even once that didn't work for us, that I would so much rather be able to keep him as an author that I love. And I love his books, and I love the way he is around his books. I'd rather keep him than have all of that be ruined. I could Yeah, I would rather get through I would, I would actually look at it as a challenge to come up with the best possible way to talk about the book that didn't work for me. Maybe find some things about the way it was written. That would make it me at least helped me to understand yes, that would be my hope. Mary, what about you?

Mary Heim 45:48

Yeah, it feels like it would be much easier for me to swallow a book that just didn't work for me than to like have to be met with like a person who is presenting in a really icky jerky way, and much more about the person than like what they produce. Yeah, same.

Kaytee Cobb 46:04

Roxanna. First of all, I want to point out that Roxana just got a whole teapot to refill her mug, which is amazing. She's so Canadian,

Roxanna Kassam Kara 46:11

her beautiful mug in it all, because I'm drinking my tea throughout this whole podcast, so I had to keep my tea warm somehow.

Kaytee Cobb 46:18

Okay, which one would you choose?

Roxanna Kassam Kara 46:20

Yeah, I would also choose the book that I didn't meditate. But yes, I'm thinking of Sarah's bookshelves, you know, she's going to be interviewing John Mars. And she wrote him and said, I loved your other books. This book was good, but didn't work for me in the same way. I think it's The Marriage Contract. And she said he was just, you know, the epitome of grace and was wonderful about it. And they're going to have this conversation and she's navigating it. Like, you know, I would rather have that than somebody that I also like, I hate conflict, it would stick with me, if somebody was a real jerk, not just for the book. But just as a person in the world, it would just really, really bother me. And it would be hard for me to let go. So I'd rather have a conversation. And you know, that's like, that's the truth of being an author, there's going to be books that really resonate with some people and other books that don't resonate. And that's kind of I think it would be interesting to ask the questions, figure out like, how are you going to have this conversation? What was your motivation? Writing this would be challenging, but it'd be much more challenging to have that author just be a real jerk.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 47:18

Well, and can I just say how much we need Enneagram eights in the world. Sarah is so wonderful, and she's such a healthy Enneagram eight, like, this is why we need eights, because they will actually just be like, No, I'm just gonna tell the author gracefully, and with kindness. And I'm just gonna say, Hey, this is what's going on? How can we best deal with it? I mean, this is the beauty of the Enneagram. Eight, they take so much crap on the enneagram, but they are so emotionally clean, when they are healthy versions of themselves. And Sara really is emblematic of that I love I love that

Kaytee Cobb 47:52

she is, and she's such a good interviewer to like she will find a way. Half the time. I'm like, Yeah, did she really like this book? Because she's so good at what she does that I'm like, she could be talking about like, how the author chose the color of the cover, which he didn't do, because it's actually the publisher. And she would find a way to like, make it really interesting, even if it turned out because all listen to her talk to authors of books that I didn't like, because she's good at it. Yeah,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 48:19

yeah. No, and I don't think she ever talks about a book in a way that isn't true. Because I don't think she could do that. I don't I don't think she has that ability. Because she is just really straightforward with how she feels very clean with how she feels. But right i so many times I've listened to an episode because it's her show. And I'm like, oh, that book doesn't really resonate with me. But then I've been so interested in the interview. And sometimes I've actually gone on to read the book when I wasn't going to before because of the interview.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 48:46

Well, and how much more respect do you have for somebody who says like, I read this book, I didn't love it as much, then you know that the book she does talk about She does love like, it just gives me that's a person with character and integrity, right, who isn't just for setting up an author interview with a huge author and talking about how much they love the book. That's the easy way out. And to not do that and to stand up and say, Listen, this one was good, but didn't really hit it for me like that makes me just really trust a book podcasts are so much more and really have a lot of respect for them. Right?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 49:16

Especially because she's doing it in advance so that they can have that conversation offline, and then work out how that's going to work and the author could you know, if he wanted to which John Marrs is not this kind of person, but he could say like, Hey, let's just go ahead and not do the interview. So she's not like gotcha in them run the mic. It's, it's really Yeah, I just I love that example of how we can deal with difficult situations in life in general, as Mary would let us all know that hey, it's not just books that we could be this clean emotionally about. Clears, there's going alright, so who hasn't asked a question or have been asked to it like where are

Kaytee Cobb 49:52

holes can have a group question. A final group question, I think, Okay. Has everybody else on their group questions? You Yes, okay, mine is about Kindle reading because we all love our Kindles. Yes.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 50:06

I was waiting. I was wondering why there was no Kindle question in here. So I'm glad to hear this one. I

Kaytee Cobb 50:10

was gonna go easy. Would you rather give up your earbuds or your Kindle? But I think I know what all of you would choose. So would you rather that reading always made you fall asleep? Or that you could never fall asleep while reading like you could not use it to wind down at the end of the day, and get calm and go to bed?

Mary Heim 50:29

This one feels easy for me to answer first. Yeah, I reading already makes me fall asleep.

Kaytee Cobb 50:35

Melatonin in every book.

Mary Heim 50:36

Yep. And as somebody who struggles with sleep, I'm like, yeah, a surefire way to fall asleep. Give it to me. That sounds great. So even though it would be a little annoying during the day, when I want to read, I think I would rather have that than never wind down with reading because I love a book before bed. That's like when I get a big chunk of my reading. And so if it didn't help me wind down. I think I've missed that more than I would reckon with the annoyance of like, okay, it's 11 o'clock, and I'm reading and I fell asleep again in the middle of the day. Yes, I would rather that for sure.

Kaytee Cobb 51:11

Meredith is shaking her head.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 51:12

can't. I mean, there are a few things that bother me more than when I really want to read but I'm sleepy either during doesn't happen so much during the day, but sometimes, I mean, that really, really bothers me. And I don't use reading to get sleepy. I use mommy and daddy alone time to get sleepy. I don't reading doesn't make me sleepy.

Kaytee Cobb 51:32

Okay, fair enough.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 51:33

Yeah,

Roxanna Kassam Kara 51:34

I think I'm with Mary, I have a lot of trouble sleeping. I never used to, but I do now. And reading does help me fall asleep. So I think I would go for that. And I don't often read. I do read during the day because I'm like having lunch and stuff, but not as much. So I think I would and I will also use this moment. I was waiting for a Kindle question specifically for this because I'm going to say this one thing, and we're going to stop the conversation on the bookish friends groups everywhere from now on. Okay, Kindle Oasis is better than the Paperwhite. Everybody hear that? You can ask me as much as you want. It's true. It's true. So all you people, whenever there's a post in the bookish fence, it's like, should I get an Oasis or Paperwhite? And be like, Well, I have a Paperwhite. And it's just as good and it was half the price. Well, no, it's not just as good because you don't have the license. So you don't know. And you can't go by the fact that it's half the price is just as good. It is not okay. It is not because it doesn't have the buttons. I know that sounds small, but it's not small. Because I also have guessed what a paperwhite And I know that moving my thumb from the side of the screen to the middle to turn it and tap it. And sometimes you tap backwards when you meant to tap forwards. And you're half asleep because you're trying to sleep. That's the most annoying thing in the world. And if you can just keep your thumb where it is and just quickly tap up and tap down. It's amazing. And you have a lot more Yeah, font sizes, which for me is I'm getting older, super important. Sometimes I have like 46 one, it's ridiculous, but it's what I need. And it's just a much more pleasant experience. Okay, so all of you on bookish friends every time I read a comment, I'm like, note, you're wrong note you're wrong. I'm just going to tell you all now. You are all wrong. Start putting

Kaytee Cobb 53:17

the angry face reaction. I'm gonna

Roxanna Kassam Kara 53:19

do it. Because they say that because they don't have it like it's just as good but it's cheaper. No, you don't have the other say you can't make a comparison. I'm telling you right now I have both I'm very rarely black and white about things. This one I'm very black and white.

Kaytee Cobb 53:33

Not kidding, listen, are about to get paid for the first half of this year. And so I think Mary and I will be upgrading to the Oasis

Mary Heim 53:42

will upgrade to the Oasis. I'm listening to this and I'm like, okay, yeah, rocking it. You're very persuasive. And like, all right, I guess she's right. It's time. Maybe it's time

Roxanna Kassam Kara 53:52

to tell you it's life changing.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 53:53

If you read in bed. I just honestly don't know how you're doing it without an Oasis. There's just no question. It is the superior. Yes. Oh,

Roxanna Kassam Kara 54:01

yes. 100% you will never go back. You'll think oh, it's such a small thing. And then you'll get it and you're like, This is life changing. Life changing. So good.

Kaytee Cobb 54:09

Okay, I only had one more logistical question answered, though. Can you walk the rotation on the Oasis so that it doesn't auto rotate, because I do read in bed, but I lay on my side and I don't want it to go to landscape. When I'm laying on my side,

Roxanna Kassam Kara 54:24

it doesn't go to landscape. It only goes vertical portrait. Either one way for holding it this way. Or you flip it and it goes the other way. There is no it's not like your phone. Whereas if you turn it a little bit and then it goes landscape, you're like what the hell? No, no, I can my phone. No, it doesn't do that. It's like so when I'm lying on my side, on one side, I read it one way and I have the buttons here. Then I turn on the other side. I want the buttons the other way I just turn it and it flips automatically. Gotcha. There is no situation in three years. I've had it that it has flipped automatically. While I've had it one way that's never happened.

Kaytee Cobb 54:57

Okay, because that's actually been a big holdout. For me. I'm like auto rotation. I hate that on my phone. Why would I want that on my device? Yeah,

Roxanna Kassam Kara 55:03

no, it does not do landscape. So that's never an issue and I will be forever grateful to Meredith for suggesting I get that one and well, not even suggesting demanding I get that one. rewiring. Yeah, requiring maybe that's the nicer way of saying it of getting that one because it's true.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 55:18

She had to get the matching case, too. So now we have absolutely identical reading to her

Kaytee Cobb 55:23

sounds like it could get problematic if you were on a reading retreat together.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 55:26

Well, no, because hers would have the decapitated body as soon as they open the cover. And, and mind we're not so it would be pretty, pretty easy. But yeah, and also Meredith's case, the case bot, because if you can, like, um, stand it up when you're eating, and then you can just turn the pages easily. It has a little elastic that you could slip it in, it's little things, but they make a huge difference. Let me tell you,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 55:47

I get so many compliments on that case by case when I have it out and about what people like that's so beautiful. That leather with the embossing in it, people really love it. So I get a lot of compliments on that. So yes, for sure. Well, I'm glad that we finally settled that argument, because that has been ongoing for a long time. I feel like that and should I listen to fourth wing or read it in print? I mean, like read it in print, put it on the Kindle, don't do the audio. Like let's not have any more conversation about some of these things.

Kaytee Cobb 56:16

By the time this episode releases. It'll be a new set of questions, but I feel like the Kindle will will continue to come up.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 56:22

Yes, that's true. All right. You guys. This was a really fun. I haven't looked but yeah, we're over an hour of which would you rather

Kaytee Cobb 56:30

question? Okay, wait, I have to tell you all that I would rather fall asleep while reading because I did not answer that. Yeah. I also use it to fall asleep. Okay. It's, it is melatonin for me. Like I'm like, Okay, I'm ready for bed now. And I set my Kindle up, and I lay down, and I maybe am reading 3% A night. And it just like, boom, every night. Bam. It's like clockwork, I love it.

Roxanna Kassam Kara 56:53

But then during the daytime, Kaytee, it'd be the same thing. Soon as you pick it up. You're gonna be

Mary Heim 56:57

out. Yeah, that's why you have four kids, one of them will wake you up. Yeah. Yeah. Right. I wouldn't have reason. There's cat.

Kaytee Cobb 57:04

There's caffeine. I'm not drinking caffeine at night. It's okay. It'll just make me fall asleep.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 57:09

I'll just pop a gummy and have some special time. So I mean, like, these are not hard problems to solve. Then you can read, you can read anytime you wanted and be perfectly awake and alert all the rest of the time. I don't understand. I don't I feel misunderstood on this particular topic.

Kaytee Cobb 57:35

I think really, really what it comes down to is that Meredith has a better access to special time than the rest of us do and can use it appropriately.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 57:45

I mean, I guess maybe I just use it. medicinally. And maybe you guys are thinking that. All right. This might be why people send me

Mary Heim 57:57

why your reputation is the dragon peen lady.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 58:00

Exactly. Exactly. All right. Okay, well, I hope that you guys have loved all these which would you rather questions? I hope that some of them you take to your own reading groups and you take to the bookish friends group you take to Instagram and and tell us which one you would rather and then start more conversation because there is nothing more fun than figuring out our absolute limits in our bookish life. And I feel like we've we've explored the limits here in this episode today, for sure. All right, that is it for this week. As a reminder, here's where you can connect with us. You can find me I'm Meredith at @Meredith.reads on Instagram.

Kaytee Cobb 58:36

And you can find me Kaytee at @notesonbookmarks on Instagram.

Mary Heim 58:40

You can find me Mary at @Maryreadsandsips on Instagram. And

Roxanna Kassam Kara 58:44

I'm @Roxannathereader on Instagram

Meredith Monday Schwartz 58:46

full show notes with the title of every book we mentioned in the episode and timestamps. So you can zoom right to where we talked about it can be found on our website at currentlyreadingpodcast.com.

Kaytee Cobb 58:56

You can also follow the show at @currentlyreadingpodcast on Instagram and tag us and interact with us or email us at currentlyreadingpodcast@gmail.com.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 59:05

And if you love this kind of content and you want more bookish content from us, you can join us as a bookish friend on Patreon. It's only \$5 a month and you get tons of extra content and you keep these big shows ad free. You can also help us by rating and reviewing us on Apple podcasts and you can shout us out on social media. All of those things make a huge difference in our finding our perfect audience.

Kaytee Cobb 59:27

Yes, bookish friends are the best friends and these bookish friends are the very best friends. Thank you all for helping us grow and get closer to our

Meredith Monday Schwartz 59:35

goals. All right, until next week, may your coffee be hot and your book be unputdownable happy reading.

Kaytee Cobb 59:42

Happy reading.

Mary Heim 59:43

Happy reading

Roxanna Kassam Kara 59:44

happy meeting all