



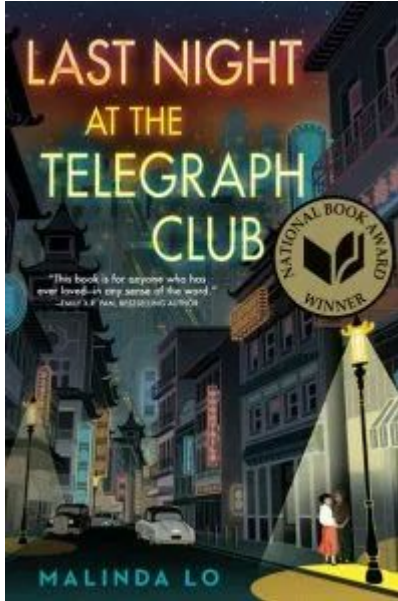
Young Adult Diverse Books
Book Club Takes *Last Night*
at the Telegraph Club to
Boston

VLA Conference, May 20, 2024
Killington, VT
Susan Piccoli



Vermont Reads

2023

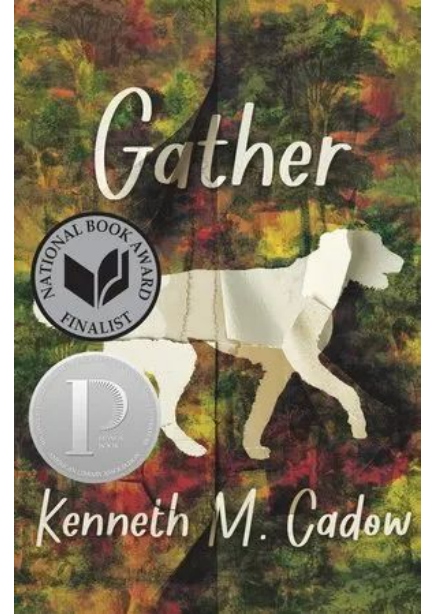


[Last Night at the Telegraph Club](#)

Project Grants

The setting of *Last Night at the Telegraph Club* in San Francisco's Chinatown is like another character in Malinda Lo's book and I want my students to experience Chinese culture and Chinese American culture for themselves in Boston's Chinatown and at the Museum of Fine Arts. The main objective of this field trip is to explore the importance of one's cultural identity, even though that was one of Lily's identities that she was encouraged to suppress in order to fit into "American" society during a tumultuous time in American history that targeted people of Asian ancestry in America.

2024



[Gather](#)





In response to a question about her favorite part of the trip, Sequoia Barbour stated, "While I enjoyed everything on the trip, my favorite part was probably the walking tour. I really enjoyed being able to try a lot of new things that I wouldn't normally get the chance to. My favorite foods we got to try were the egg custard tarts, the barbeque pork bao buns, the noodle dish at dim sum, and the scallion pancake."



Cultural Connections between the book and the trip

Commenting on connections they made between the book and the food walking tour, Luca Morris stated, "Walking into one of the shops--I think it was either the Chinese medicine shop or the Chinese barbeque shop--I saw a poster for a candidate in a Chinatown pageant, which reminded me of Shirley from the book and her campaign for Miss Chinatown. Also, I saw some foods in the shops or at the dim sum lunch that I remembered reading about in the book. For example, BBQ pork filled steamed buns."



Museum of Fine Arts Lunar New Year Celebration - Year of the Dragon



Teen Central at the Boston Public Library



Ada Mahood stated, "I honestly loved all of it. The Boston Library was so so cool though. I honestly could've just spent hours and hours sitting in there and reading. It was a very calming atmosphere and I appreciated the staff being so kind and helpful to us!"

Intergenerational Book Club



The idea for this book club came out of a brainstorming session Ms. Sullivan Justice did with the QSA. It was such a great idea! We had students from the Young Adult Diverse Books Book Club, the QSA, teachers, staff and the director of the Norman Williams Public Library, Clare McFarland, joined us. It was a really thoughtful discussion that everyone was able to participate in. Ms. Perkins said, "I greatly enjoyed the relaxed and spontaneous atmosphere for sharing reactions, questions, and comments on the novel, the times then and now, etc. – no formatives or summatives involved! Just human stuff. Terrific mid-day change to the school day!"

For More Information About the YADB Book Club

Please contact:

Susan Piccoli, School Librarian
Woodstock Union High/Middle School
susan.piccoli@mtnviews.org

Explore some recent issues of “From the Library”

[February 28, 2024](#) (Boston Trip)

[March 14, 2024](#) (Intergenerational Book Club)

[May 24, 2023](#) (*The Most Costly Journey*)



Some Favorite Picks From Our Reading List!

Dear Martin by Nic Stone
We Are Not Free by Traci Chee
Punching the Air by Ibi Zoboi & Yusef Salaam
Blackout by Dhonielle Clayton, et al.
Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley
Augusta Savage by Marilyn Nelson
Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo
Clap When You Land by Elizabeth Acevedo
Moth by Amber McBride
The Words in My Hands by Asphyxia
As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow by Zoulfa Katouh

On Our List for Next Year:
Nigeria Jones by Ibi Zoboi
Dear Haiti, Love Alaine by Maika & Maritza Moulite
The Collectors edited by A.S. King
We Are So Good at Smiling by Amber McBride
All My Rage by Sabaa Tahir

