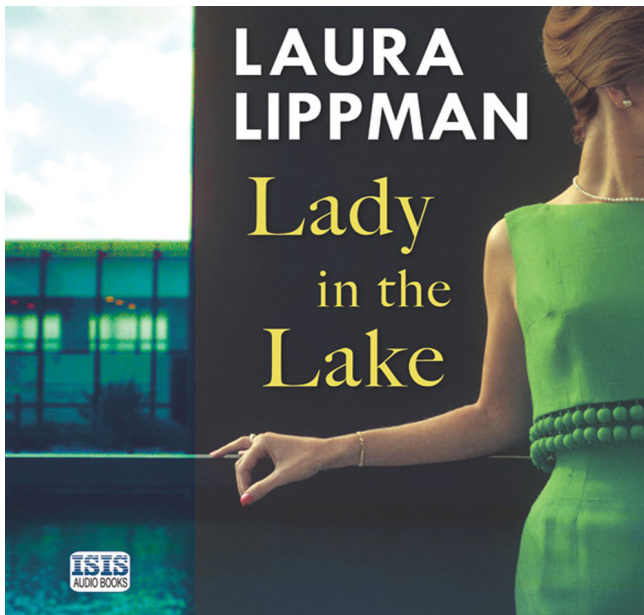




# READING GUIDE

August, 2023



## Lady In The Lake

Laura Lippman

A stunning, multi-voiced, period piece - tackling race, gender politics, and the volatility of mid '60s America.

### IN DETAIL

Baltimore, 1966. When Maddie Schwartz, having recently left her husband of over 20 years, helps Baltimore police find a murdered girl, her assistance leads to a job at the city's afternoon newspaper. Working at the newspaper offers Maddie the opportunity to make her name, and she has found just the story to do it: a missing woman whose body was discovered in the fountain of a city park lake.

Cleo Sherwood was a young African-American woman who liked to have a good time. No one seems to know or care why she was killed except Maddie - and the dead woman herself. Maddie's going to find the truth about Cleo's life and death. Cleo's ghost, privy to Maddie's poking and prying, wants to be left alone.



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## BOOK CLUB TOPICS

Did you enjoy *Lady In The Lake*?

How did the pace of the book impact your reading experience?

Was it too fast/too slow/just right?

Cleo's perspective is written from the first person whereas Maddie's is written from the third. How does this style influence your reading and connection with each character?

In his review of *Lady in the Lake*, Stephen King says he never saw the ending coming. Did you?

Would you recommend *Lady In The Lake*?

## RECOMMENDED LISTENS AFTER *LADY IN THE LAKE*

### Other novels based on true stories

*Tamam Shud: A Phryne Fisher Mystery* by Kerry Greenwood

*The Black Dahlia* by James Ellroy

*Room* by Emma Donoghue

*Liberation* by Imogen Kealey

*Black Drop* by Leonora Nattrass