



READING GUIDE

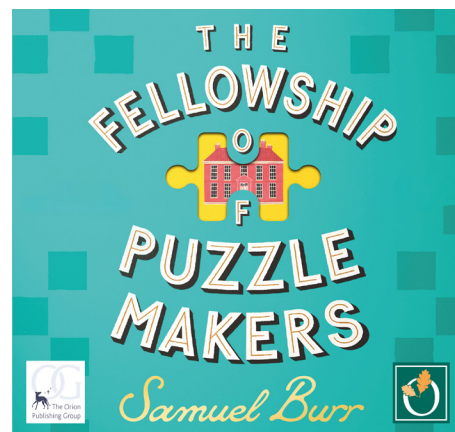
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The Fellowship Of Puzzlemakers

Samuel Burr

Synopsis

Clayton Stumper is an enigma. He might be twenty-five years old, but he dresses like your grandad and drinks sherry like your aunt. Abandoned at birth on the steps of the Fellowship of Puzzlemakers, he was raised by the sharpest minds in the British Isles and finds himself amongst the last survivors of a fading institution. When the esteemed crossword compiler, Pippa Allsbrook, passes away, she bestows her final puzzle to him: a promise to reveal the mystery of his parentage and prepare him for his future. Yet as Clay begins to unpick the clues, he uncovers something even the Fellowship have never been able to solve - and it's a secret that will change everything...



Discussion points

1. Though brilliantly skilled, Pippa says that in her younger years she always felt invisible. In what ways does establishing the Fellowship finally make her feel seen?
2. On the one hand, Clayton is intrigued about following his mother's clues toward the discovery of his past. That's understandable. But do you also understand his apprehension?
3. One of the reasons for the Fellowship partaking in puzzles is the pleasure of routine. What routines do you have in your life? What are the ones you're unconscious of? Aware of? And those you can't imagine living without?
4. Did you enjoy the ending?

Next, you should listen to...

Death By Numbers by Jo Cunningham

The Housekeepers by Alex Hay

The Secrets of Blythswood Square by Sara Sheridan