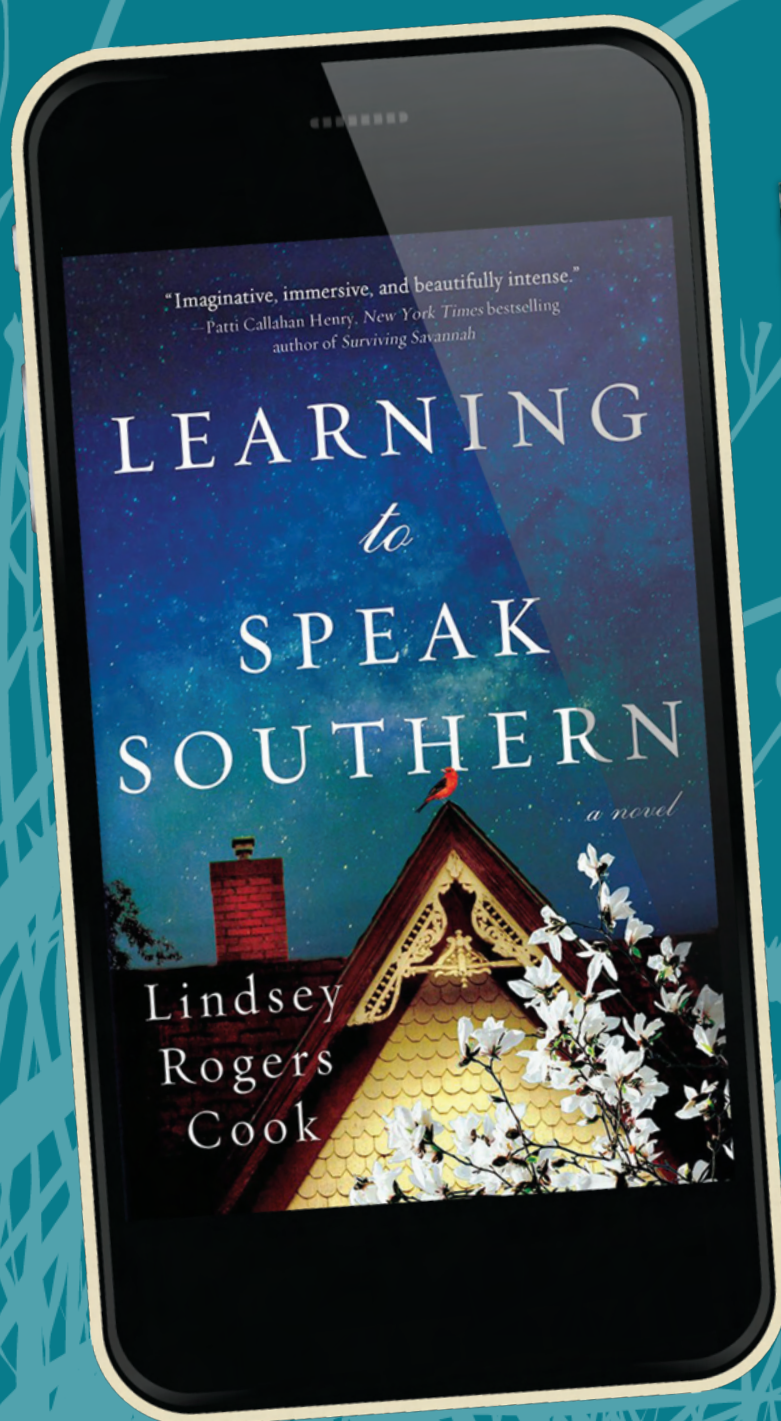




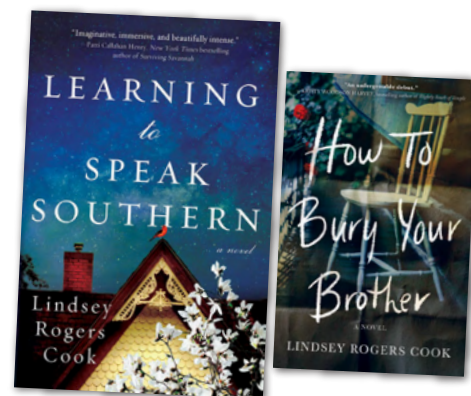
Discover. Read. Share.

## Book Club Companion: Meeting Planning Guide for Readers of *Learning to Speak Southern*



## WELCOME TO THE CLUB

The hoopla catalog provides endless options to enhance your in-person book-club meeting. From cookbooks to movies to music, check out our Book Club Companion to this season's Spotlight Selection, ***Learning to Speak Southern***. Incorporating one or more of these creative complements will guarantee a fresh and fun meeting around the book *Library Journal* called “deeply immersive.” Pick a few favorites and share your meeting moments on social using #hooplabookclub!



### ALSO BY LINDSEY ROGERS COOK: *HOW TO BURY YOUR BROTHER*

If you liked *Learning to Speak Southern*, check out Lindsey Rogers Cook's debut novel, *How to Bury Your Brother*, available on hoopla as an audiobook and ebook.

“The one thing Alice knows with certainty on the day of her beloved brother's funeral is that, somehow, she must find answers to the questions that have haunted her since the day her brother left home at the age of fifteen—even if the quest could destroy everything she thinks she holds dear. *With How to Bury Your Brother*, Lindsey Rogers Cook has penned a deeply felt novel that unspools the threads of secrets long-buried beneath the seemingly sunny surface of one Southern family. Readers will find themselves immersed in Alice's quest, and rooting for her to discover the real meaning of home.” - **Mary Kay Andrews, *New York Times* bestselling author**

## SUPPORT RESOURCES

*Learning to Speak Southern* deals with some difficult themes, such as suicide, miscarriage, and the grief that stems from those losses. Sometimes reading about others' grief helps us better understand our own. Each of the books below presents grief through a different lens, candidly sharing the thoughts, fears, and behaviors that accompanied particular losses.



If you or a loved one finds yourself in need of support, there are many resources available, including the following:

**The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** is a national network of more than 150 local crisis centers. It offers free and confidential emotional support around the clock to those experiencing a suicidal crisis.

800-273-8255 (24/7)

Online chat (24/7):

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat>

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

**The Crisis Text Line** is a free text-messaging resource offering 24/7 support to anyone in crisis. Since August 2013, more than 79 million text messages have been exchanged.

Text HOME to 741741 (24/7)

<https://www.crisistextline.org>

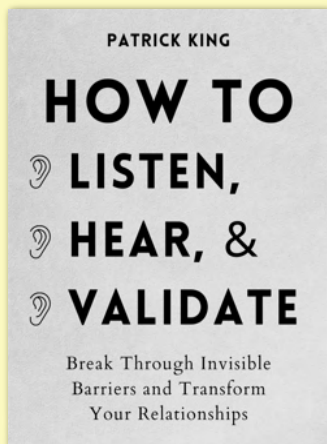
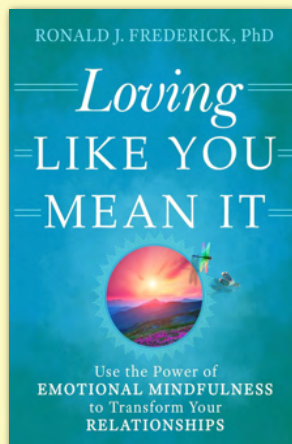
**National Share** partners with hospitals, community organizations, and bereaved parents nationwide to establish perinatal bereavement programs in their communities.

<https://nationalshare.org/find-a-share-chapter-near-you>  
1-800-821-6819.

**Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Support (SANDS)** offers support to all individuals affected by stillbirth or the loss of a newborn infant, and its website includes information on local groups and advocacy opportunities.

<https://www.sands.org.uk/>

## RECONNECTING WITH LOVED ONES

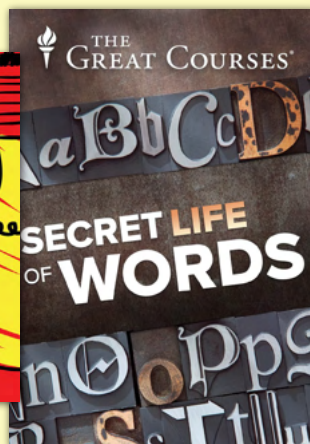
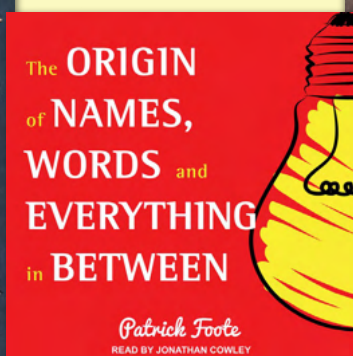


Throughout *Learning to Speak Southern*, Lex struggles to reconnect with her estranged family and friends. These books about reconnecting offer a reminder that people can be as much of a home as a place is.



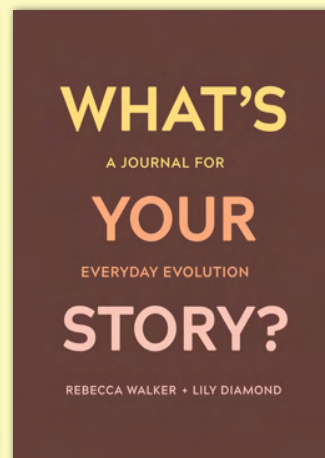
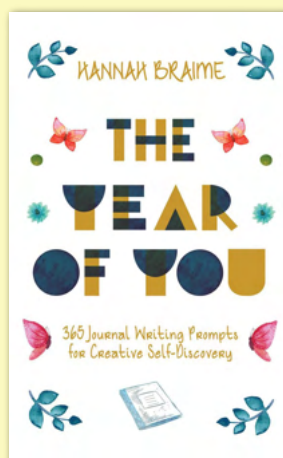
## LEARN FROM YOUR LIBRARY: LINGUISTICS AND WORD ORIGINS

Lex obsesses over the etymology of words as a way to distract from her tumultuous life. Read, watch, or listen to these titles to discover the origins behind everyday words and phrases.



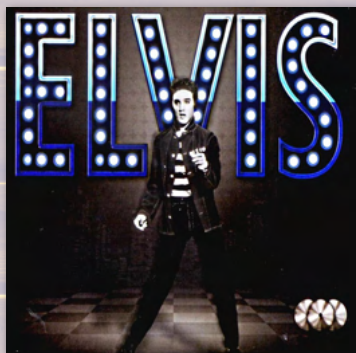
## THE ART OF JOURNALING

Margaret uses a journal to document and process what's going on in her life. These titles might inspire you to start keeping a journal of your own. From dealing with anxiety to making room for self-care, journaling is widely recommended as a way to release stress and process any kind of emotion, from letting go of anger to cherishing joy.



## BOOK-CLUB BACKGROUND MUSIC: THE MUSIC OF MEMPHIS

Genres like soul, gospel, rhythm and blues, and rock 'n' roll all have their roots in Lex's hometown of Memphis. These albums will transport your book club to the city that's known as both the "Home of the Blues" and the "Birthplace of Rock 'n' Roll."



## LINDSEY ROGERS COOK'S PLAYLIST TO ACCOMPANY LEARNING TO SPEAK SOUTHERN

While writing this book, Lindsey Rogers Cook listened to a playlist of songs that inspired her. Listen to these tracks to set the stage for your book club or to see if you can find your own connections to the novel.

"Down to the River to Pray," Alison Krauss, *A Hundred Miles or More: A Collection*

"You're My Best Friend," Queen, *A Night at the Opera*

"You Know I'm No Good," Amy Winehouse, *Back to Black*



"Truth Hurts," Lizzo, *Cuz I Love You (Super Deluxe)*

"Count on Me," Bruno Mars, *Doo-Wops & Hooligans*

"Come and Go Blues," The Allman Brothers Band, *Dreams*

"Maps," Yeah Yeah Yeahs, *Fever to Tell*

"Velvet Elvis," Kacey Musgraves, *Golden Hour*

"Somebody to Love," Queen, *Greatest Hits*

"Mr. Brightside," The Killers, *Hot Fuss*

"Don't Fight It," Wilson Pickett, *In the Midnight Hour*

"Anxiety," Julia Michaels, *Inner Monologue Part 1*

"Language," Tori Kelly, *Inspired by True Events*

"Que Sera Sera," Marcus Miller, *Laid Black*

"That's How I Got to Memphis," Deryl Dodd, *Live at Billy Bob's Texas*

"Tongue Tied," Grouplove, *Never Trust a Happy Song*

"Aeroplane," Red Hot Chili Peppers, *One Hot Minute (Deluxe Edition)*

"Stand by Me," Prince Royce, *Prince Royce*

"Chains of Fools," Aretha Franklin, *The Genius of Aretha Franklin*

"There She Goes," The La's, *The La's*

"Honky Tonk Women," The Rolling Stones, *The Rolling Stones Singles Collection: The London Years*

"Don't Leave Me (Ne me quitte pas)," Regina Spektor, *What We Saw from the Cheap Seats*



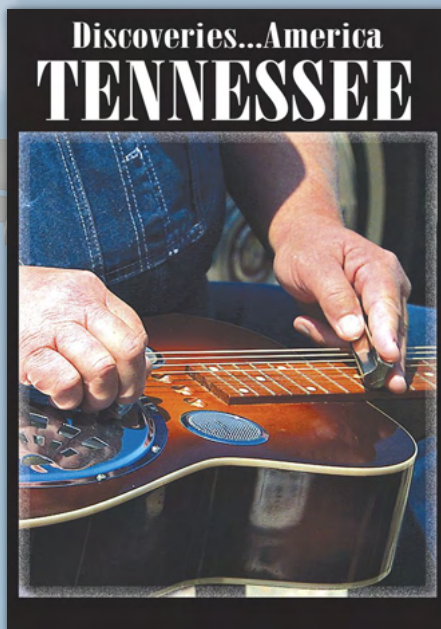
## ON THE MEETING MENU: A WORLD OF FOOD

From Cami's Muerto Rican mofongo and garlic shrimp to Memphis BBQ to authentic Italian pasta, *Learning to Speak Southern* contains some mouthwatering mentions of food. Let these cookbooks inspire you to try cuisine from around the world—and maybe make up some snacks for your meeting!



## BOOK-CLUB MOVIE NIGHT: TRAVEL THE WORLD

*Learning to Speak Southern* traverses the globe: Bali, Mexico, Florence, Memphis, and Paris are all explored in the book. Here are some great travel documentaries to immerse yourself into new countries and cultures.



## BOOKS FOR IF YOU CAUGHT THE TRAVEL BUG

Ready for a reading list that will change the way you travel? Here are some must-read travelogues. Prepare for a serious case of wanderlust.

