

Scarlet Ibis James

SCARLET YEARNINGS

Stories of Love and Desire



Book Club Guide

DKJ Enterprises LLC



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Praise for Scarlet Yearnings

A Journey Through Love

"A beautifully crafted journey through the many facets of love... Each story feels intimate and genuine."

– Leora Alora

Love and Complexity

"The author doesn't shy away from the messy, complicated side of love. It's refreshing."

– The Bourbon-Sipping Bibliophile.

Stories That Stay With You

"Courage is a quality I admire—and worry I don't have enough of. These stories made me reflect deeply on my own decisions."

– Amanda Jones

Dare to Love Again

"The stories weave a beautiful and imaginative collage... They dare you to love again!"

– SheLovesToRead

Hidden Depths

"Each story is a gem, sparkling with fresh light at every page. They are delights to savor and return to."

– Britni Pepper

A Heartfelt Tapestry of Love and Desire

"A must-read for anyone who appreciates heartfelt, beautifully crafted storytelling."

– P. Cammalleri



About The Book



This collection is perfect for anyone craving quick, emotionally charged stories to add a little love and longing to their day. Each tale will tug at your heartstrings and leave you reflecting on the imperfect beauty of human connection.



About the Author

Scarlet Ibis James, a vibrant contemporary romance author, infuses her stories with the warmth of her Trinidadian heritage and the electric energy of New York City, where she now resides.

Though a sucker for a happy ending in her heart, James' characters are delightfully flawed and relatable, mirroring her zest for life and introspective nature.

Her engaging narratives delve into the complexities of love, self-discovery, and the unexpected, all brought to life with humor and a touch of whimsical world fantasy.



Book Club Guide

Welcome, book clubs! This guide is designed to spark thought-provoking and heartfelt discussions about the themes, characters, and emotions in *Scarlet Yearnings: Stories of Love and Desire*. Each question invites you to explore the depths of love, longing, and identity presented in these vivid stories.

Flexibility of Formats

Scarlet Yearnings: Stories of Love and Desire is available in a variety of formats to suit your reading preferences and lifestyle:

- [Ebook | Paperback | Kindle Unlimited | Hardback | Audible](#)

Introduction for Book Clubs

Scarlet Yearnings is a collection of twelve contemporary love stories featuring protagonists from diverse Black experiences. Through relatable characters and settings, the stories explore the complexity of love—its beauty, pain, and transformative power. Whether your club reads the book all at once or story by story, this guide will help frame your discussions.

Scarlet Yearnings

General Questions

1. Which story resonated most deeply with you? Why?
2. How does the theme of yearning manifest differently across the stories?
3. In what ways do the characters' ethnicities and cultural identities shape their experiences of love?
4. Did any of the stories challenge your perspective on love, relationships, or desire?
5. What role do setting and atmosphere play in the collection? How does Harlem, in particular, influence the characters and their stories?

Story-Specific Questions

Behind the Grand Doors of Paradise

- How does the Malaysian doorman's perspective as an observer shape the story's message about connection and loneliness?
- What might the "grand doors" symbolize in the context of his reflections?

Love Of My Mother's Mother

- How does generational trauma influence the relationship between the grandmother and granddaughter?
- Do you think the story provides a resolution to their tension? Why or why not?

Hot Subway, Love

- What do you think the subway setting symbolizes in the story about two brothers?
- How does the concept of love transcend physical existence in this narrative?

Scarlet Ibis James

Love, Lift Me Up

- Lust is a central theme here. Do you think it evolves into love, or does it remain lust? How can you tell?
- How does the protagonist's perspective on love and desire shift throughout the story?

Love, Mystical and Destined

- How does destiny play a role in shaping the characters' understanding of love?
- What do you think the story says about balancing free will and fate in relationships?

Themes to Explore

- **The Power of Yearning:** How does longing shape the lives and decisions of the characters?
- **Cultural Influence:** Discuss how the stories explore love through the lens of cultural traditions and expectations.
- **Family Dynamics:** How do familial relationships enhance or hinder the characters' journeys toward love and connection?
- **The Other Side of Love:** Were there moments in the book that focused on the pain or challenges of love? How were they resolved or left open-ended? What stories do you wish to read more about?

Activities for Book Clubs

1. **Create Your Love Story:** Write a one-paragraph love story inspired by a theme from the book and share it with the group.
2. **Character Portraits:** Assign each member a character to embody and discuss their motivations and challenges.
3. **Yearning in Real Life:** Share a moment from your life that aligns with the book's themes of love and longing.
4. **Leave a Review:** Share your thoughts and reflections about the book by leaving a review on [Amazon](#) or [Goodreads](#).

Closing Reflections

- If you could ask Scarlet Ibis James one question about her writing or the stories, what would it be?
- How do these stories compare to other love stories you've read?

Share Your Thoughts!

We'd love to hear how your book club experience went! Share your reflections and photos by tagging Scarlet on [Facebook](#), [TikTok](#) or [Instagram](#) using [#ScarletYearnings](#).

Thank you for journeying into
Scarlet Yearnings: Stories of Love and Desire. 🌸

Visit www.scarletibisjames.com for updates, book talks, and more!