

Book Club Kit

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"An ode to female friendship, second chances, and the people who are 'Most Likely' to love us the most."

—#1 New York Times bestselling author
Laura Dave



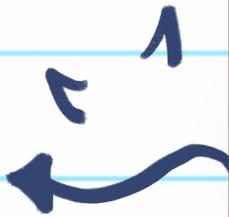
The Most Likely Club

A Novel

Author of *Last Summer at the Golden Hotel*



ELYSSA
FRIEDLAND



Dear Reader,

You know this is the book for you because it has the word “club” in the title! But there are more reasons for your book club to choose *The Most Likely Club* as its next read. It’s a story about friendship, womanhood, second chances, impostor syndrome, and the absurdity of having it all. And it’s really funny. So gather your friends, pour the wine, and get to talking.

Here’s some food (or wine) for thought to get your discussion started. How would your adult life look to your teenage self, the one who dreamed of having it all? How have your goals changed since the days you were smearing Clearasil on your zits and stressing about the prom? *The Most Likely Club* asks those questions as my characters journey back in time to high school and rethink their younger selves and the choices they’ve made. It’s the perfect book for anyone who misses the nineties, has dreaded a high school reunion, or has plummeted down a Facebook rabbit hole looking up former classmates. I think that captures just about everyone. Melissa Levin, Priya Chowdhury, Tara Taylor, and Suki Hammer, best friends since high school, are approaching their twenty-fifth reunion. Melissa is asked to chair the event and she lays the pressure on thick for her friends to attend. Tara is still recovering from a scandal at their fifteenth reunion, Priya can hardly imagine leaving her job and three kids for the weekend, and Suki is too busy running an empire to be bothered.

And yet, three of the four women make their way back to the campus for a weekend that is full of surprises, heartbreak, laughter, and loads of nostalgia. When a peer they barely recall announces a massive donation to their alma mater, the women reckon with where they are in their lives, even digging out the yearbook to face their superlatives. Buoyed by the bonds of friendship, renewed ambition, and a lot of alcohol, the women form *The Most Likely Club*. They will make their high school superlatives come true or die trying (well, not exactly).

Thank you for reading my book and making it a part of your book club!

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glynna". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.



Discussion Questions

1. If you had a high school superlative, do you remember what it was? Or what do you think it would have been?
2. How have your dreams and goals evolved since you were a teenager?
3. Which one of the four women in *The Most Likely Club* did you identify with the most, and why? Who did you relate to the least? Did any of the characters remind you of friends in your own life?
4. The women all struggle with the idea of “having it all.” What does *having it all* mean to you? The entrepreneur Randi Zuckerberg wrote a book called *Pick Three: You Can Have It All (Just Not Every Day)* where she encourages women to pick three things to focus on each day among work, sleep, family, fitness, and friends. What would be your top three (not limited to the above choices)?
5. Priya and Melissa, two of the mothers in the group, try to prevent their children from making the same mistakes and avoiding the same lows they experienced in high school, but it’s not easy. Why do you think it’s so hard to help your children avoid some of the pitfalls you experienced in your own life?
6. Can you name one way that each of the four women has changed since high school? In what ways have they stayed the same?



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7. Suki faces unique difficulties as a female CEO. What do you think is at the root of why powerful women face a double standard in our society when they act like strong leaders?
8. The primary issue in Priya and Dev's marriage is division of labor, a common issue for many couples, particularly in households with two working parents. Dev promises to change and contribute more. Do you think he will hold up his end of the bargain? Explain why or why not.
9. Melissa's weight is a continuing source of concern to her, even as the culture around her has made strides toward embracing body positivity. Why do you think she is hung up on wanting to be thin? Should she have worried more about how her behavior could affect her daughter?
10. Nathan is brutally honest with Melissa about why he gave the donation to Bellport. Have you ever made a choice in your life that was clearly influenced by something that happened to you in high school?
11. Do you think high school superlatives are a good idea? Do you think students should choose their own superlatives?
12. What do you wish you could tell your teenage self today? How would your adult advice have sounded to you back when you were in high school?
13. Discuss the friendship between the four women. How does their bond help them through difficult times? Do you agree with the saying "Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver and the other is gold"?

