

BOOK CLUB GUIDE

Welcome
Book Clubbers!

This handy discussion guide
is here to inspire you to enjoy
your best meeting ever!



Read the Hot New Mystery Thriller

TWELVE STORIES HIGH

by Bever-leigh Banfield

12 Women of Color
A Dozen Whodunits
Which Girls Will Survive?



www.beverleigh.com

GET READY TO GO TWELVE STORIES HIGH

Click the Button Now to Take a Sneak Peak
at the Twelve Stories High Book Trailer and
See What's In Store For Your Reading Group





MEET SHEROS TO-DIE-FOR

Long story short—they're in deep trouble.

The ladies of *Twelve Stories High* are suspected of murders they didn't commit. Hounded by dangerous unknown forces. Entangled in secrets and lies. And because they're Black, they're on their own—accused, abused, and on the run from cops as well as killers.

When Florida's hubby demands a divorce and suddenly disappears, relocating seems her only choice... until her newfound land is cursed, starts growing enemies like weeds, and begins to unearth a deadly mystery buried in her past.

For Cherrie, who caters boats to fund free meals to feed the homeless, being suspected of killing a media mogul on his to-die-for yacht is poisoning her future—and threatening to starve the hot new love she's stirring up aboard.

Willow is having a nervous breakdown. Haunted by the spirit of a grandmother who exhorts her to hunt for long-lost wealth, she jets to the Caribbean on a genealogical quest for a fortune in hidden family treasure.

From a southern small-town scandal to a seat on the Hollywood casting couch to a seven-year-old in the hot seat and four amateur painters finding their artwork hung beside their neighbor's corpse, these stories and more unfold as Trouble gets spelled with a capital TEA!

www.beverleigh.com

MAKE YOUR MEETING SUPER-EXCITING



ACTIVITIES TO TAKE YOUR CLUB HIGHER

Twelve Stories High is more than one storyline. It's 12 exciting experiences. Here's how you can keep the good times rolling with activities that'll recall the brave characters, exotic settings, and suspenseful plots in the book.

QUESTIONS TO STIMULATE CHAT

A great book club is all about bonding over shared literary adventures. Keep your convo flowing with thought-provoking questions in this guide that can engage your members and elicit compelling answers.

VIDEOS, TAKEAWAYS AND OFFERS FOR YOU

Be among the first to see shareable Twelve Stories High Book Trailers and Promos you'll want to share with your friends, family and social networks.

Plus, get the skinning on upcoming books, appearances and giveaways.

www.beverleigh.com

Request a Virtual Visit to Your
Twelve Stories High Meeting

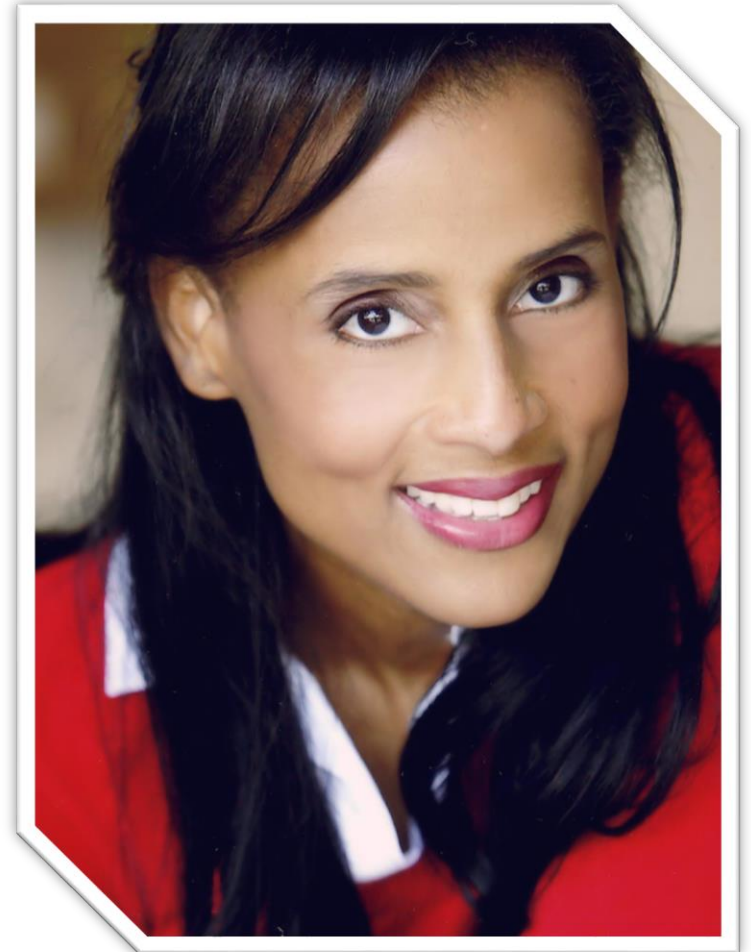


INVITE THE AUTHOR TO YOUR BOOK DISCUSSION

You may have seen me on television as Cynthia in *ROOTS: The Next Generations* or as T.C. the Plumber's Helper in *Good Times*. Or maybe you caught me tracking bad guys as forensics expert Lily Morgan in *Burke's Law*, or saw me play a vampire in the *Cliffhangers* series, or laughed as I managed a political campaign as Gloria in *Major Dad*. And if you're a daytime TV fan, you might've watched me on *Ryan's Hope* and *Days of Our Lives*.

If you think you recognize me from McDonald's, Pampers, Yoplait, Best Buy and other national commercials, you're right. And you've probably heard me announcing promos for ABC network shows or voicing ads for Chevrolet, Federal Express, KFC, Bank of America and other major brands. I've done voice-overs for animations too, like *The Little Engine That Could*, *Little Nemo*, *Scooby Doo*, *The Smurfs*, *Batman*, *The Pound Puppies*, *Captain Caveman* and *The Flintstone Kids*.

What you might not know is that I studied writing while getting my B.A. from Stanford, earned a masters degree from the Yale University School of Drama, and went on to perform on Broadway and in movies. These experiences inspired me to pen celebrity interviews about fellow actors and musicians, one of which, published in *Essence* magazine, won the American Diabetes Association National Media Award. I've been creating characters and storytelling all my life – and I hope you'll enjoy the heart-pumping new adventures I've dreamed up to keep you on the edge of your seat. Click this link to order *Twelve Stories High* online or ask for it at your local bookstore!



[Find Out More](#)



ACTIVITY IDEAS THAT WILL BOND YOUR CLUB MEMBERS

Discover fun ways to elevate your Twelve Stories High gathering with creative projects, interactive experiences, and games.

FUN ACTIVITIES

Games



WHO SAID IT

Write down quotes from *Twelve Stories High* and place them in a hat, bowl or other container. Have each member pull a quote and read it to the group. Have members note in their phones which character said it, to whom, when, and why it was said, and in which story and setting. The best detail guesser wins.

WHO IS IT

On paper or 3x5 cards, jot down *Twelve Stories High* story titles and character names. Place cards face down. Choose teams. For each turn, set a 2 or 3-minute time limit using a phone timer. Have a member pick a card and act out its topic for their teammates to guess. After several rounds, the team with the shortest time wins.

WHODUNNIT

For each of the twelve mysteries, invite members to devise a victim different than the one in the *Twelve Stories High* story. Try existing characters or dream up new ones during your meeting. Put your heads together to figure out the motive, method, and most importantly, the villain who perpetrated the crime.

FUN ACTIVITIES

Projects



FOOD

Host a potluck meeting! Clubbers can look up online recipes at eatthis.com or allrecipes.com and prepare historic Southern dishes like those in the plot of *Cooking with Glass*. Or your group could get together to bake a princess cake like Cherrie's in *With a Cherrie on Top*, and make the meeting a book club tea party.

FASHION

Each clubber can bring a foam core board and their favorite fashion magazines, and spend part of your meeting creating fashion boards of clothes their favorite characters might wear. Or alternatively, bring home magazines to design houses and furnishings their most aspirational *Twelve Stories High* characters might live in.

FANTASY

All it takes is a sketch pad and some pencils, colored pencils, watercolors or charcoals to set your clubbers' imaginations free to draw or paint images of how they picture their most memorable *Twelve Stories High* characters. Share among yourselves, or scan and post, or frame to decorate your home or office walls.

FUN ACTIVITIES

Parties



MEET UP

Invite another local book club to your *Twelve Stories High* meeting to network, chat about your favorite books and authors, and swap hardcovers and paperbacks in a gently-used exchange, where you can make new friends with fellow booklovers.

LIFT UP

Support seniors in your community by dropping off your copies of *Twelve Stories High* at a local nursing home or assisted living facility after you've read them. Then hold a joint book discussion once residents there have read the books.

DRESS UP

Have a Costume Book Club Party! Dress as your favorite *Twelve Stories High* characters at your discussion meeting and have fun guessing who is whom.



ASK QUESTIONS TO SPARK MORE LIVELY CHAT

Get your Book Club talking with questions that make members think, reflect, remember, consider, relate, learn from each other, and grow closer as a group.



ASK & ANSWER

Explore

1. What is your favorite Twelve Stories High story? What did you like best about it?
2. Who is your favorite Twelve Stories High character?
3. If you could be the main character of one of the stories, who would you be? Why?
4. Do any of the characters reflect who you once were or would like to someday be?
5. Which character would you like to meet. Where and why would you meet them?
6. Which character would you not like to meet? What would you do or say if you did?
7. What story ending did you figure out before you got to it?
8. What plot twists surprised, shocked, or kept you guessing?
9. Do you see a theme connecting the stories? What is it? Does it resonate with you?

ASK & ANSWER

Enlighten

10. What Twelve Stories High story made you laugh or cry? Why did it?
11. Are there characters in the book you feel are relationship goals?
12. Which character behaved as you do or did things you would never do?
13. What character voice do you feel may be that of the author, and why?
14. Which stories do you hope become full-length novels or TV shows?
15. Cast actors you would like to see star in a movie of those stories.
16. What did you like most about reading Twelve Stories High?
17. Do you usually read short stories, and do you enjoy them in a collection?
18. If Bever-leigh participates in your discussion, what would you like to ask her?



ASK & ANSWER

Express

19. How did reading Twelve Stories High make you feel?
20. What was your favorite story setting—California, Barbados, Florida, Tennessee?
21. Have you ever visited or lived in one of the locations? Did a story bring back memories?
22. Did the different mysteries intrigue and involve you?
23. Does the Twelve Stories High book cover appeal to you?
24. Do you feel the book cover reflects the contents of the book?
25. What other books are comparable to this one, or is it unique?
26. Are there elements of the stories that tie them together?
27. What 5 words describe the Twelve Stories High sheroes as a group?





ASK & ANSWER

Examine

28. Is Twelve Stories High the right length, or would you rather it be shorter or longer?
29. Was the pace fast enough for you?
30. Is there something in the book you still wonder about?
31. Do the stories stick with you? If so, is that due to the characters, narratives, or plots?
32. Did the Twelve Stories High title intrigue you? What other title might you create?
33. Are the stories in the best order? How might you order them differently?
34. Did you read the book in a device? Which one? (laptop, reader, tablet, or phone?)
35. Which format do you read most—hardcover, paperback, eBook, or audiobook?
36. Will you recommend Twelve Stories High to a friend?



ASK & ANSWER

Expand

37. Do you want to be a beta reader for the new mystery novel Bever-leigh is working on?
38. Can you guess the astrological signs of the main characters?
39. What advice can you give a main character that might change her story?
40. Did the stories end the way you hoped? How might you change an ending?
41. What do you imagine happens in the lives of the main characters after their story is over?
42. Would you feel comfortable calling the police if, like the heroines, you were in danger?
43. What is a positive encounter you have had with a police officer? A negative encounter?
44. As a group, see how many characters you can name for each story. Ready, set, go.
45. What songs can you associate with the stories? Assemble a Twelve Stories High playlist!



ACCESS EXCLUSIVE EXTRAS

Look what you could win

THANK YOU GIFTS

Reserve Your Date Now

When you schedule *Twelve Stories High* for your book of the month—in addition to my offer to join your discussion meeting virtually via Zoom—your book club will receive 12 Free Downloads of my inspirational *You Can Change the World: Be a Change Wizard and Get It Like You Like It* eBook, Audiobook, and hot new Theme Song dance music to shed light on the mystery of life.

Visit www.beverleigh.com for content and updates.

Let's connect soon!





KEEP IN TOUCH

I love Book Clubs and am always interested in what's on your mind and in your heart. Let's connect!



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