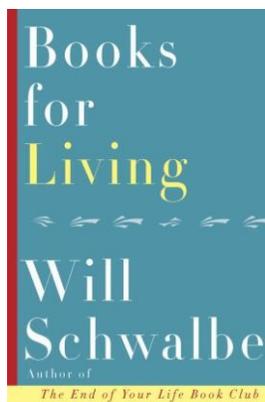


Lillie M. Evans Library District Book Club

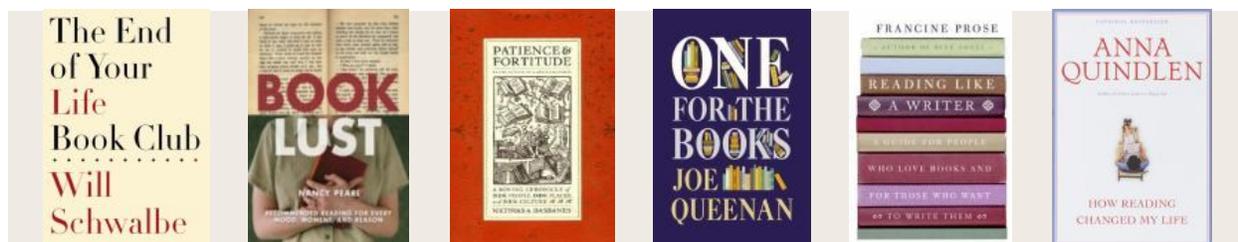
August 27, 2018

Biography:



Will Schwalbe is an author, entrepreneur and journalist based in New York City. He is the author of three books and was the former editor-in-chief of Hyperion Books. In 2008, he founded the recipe web site Cookstr. It was acquired by Macmillan Publishing in 2014 and he serves as executive vice president. The End Of Your Life Book Club, which described Schwalbe's relationship with his mother through books before her passing, was published in 2012, and spent more than four months on the New York Times Bestseller List. Books for Living was published in December 2016 and consists of essays about 26 different books that affected the author's life. (Adapted from wikipedia.com)

Similar Resources:



Discussion Questions:

1. Discuss the significance of the George R. R. Martin epigraph that opens Books for Living. How does it set the tone for the book?
2. What books have quietly changed your life? Have you ever returned to a book from your childhood or adolescence? If so, how did your feelings toward the book evolve? Did it gain new meaning for you?
3. Schwalbe discusses how Miss Locke, his high school librarian, helped to shape his identity by introducing him to James Baldwin and other masters of literature. Who in your life opened the door for you to discover influential writers and works?
4. The idea of reading as a way to combat grief is a seminal theme in Books for Living, particularly in Schwalbe's discussion of his friend David Baer. Is there a book that has provided comfort for you in a particularly dark time?
5. In Anne Morrow Lindberg's Gift from the Sea, she emphasizes the importance of spending time alone, particularly for women. Do you share this point of view?
6. How does cooking and sharing meals together shape our humanity? How did Edna Lewis's work emphasize the connection between cooking and community?
7. Which of the books featured in Books for Living have you read, if any? If you have, did you experience any connections to the text that were similar to the author's? If you haven't encountered any of these titles, which are you inspired to read? (*Questions issued by the publisher.*)