



Best Book Club

Where We Talk About All Things Books and Book Club

Author Bio- Taylor Jenkins Reid

Taylor Jenkins Reid is the bestselling author of *Malibu Rising*, *Daisy Jones and the Six* and *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo*. She also has many other novels in her backlog such as *One True Loves* and *Maybe in Another Life*. She grew up in Acton Massachusetts but now lives in Los Angeles with her husband and daughter.

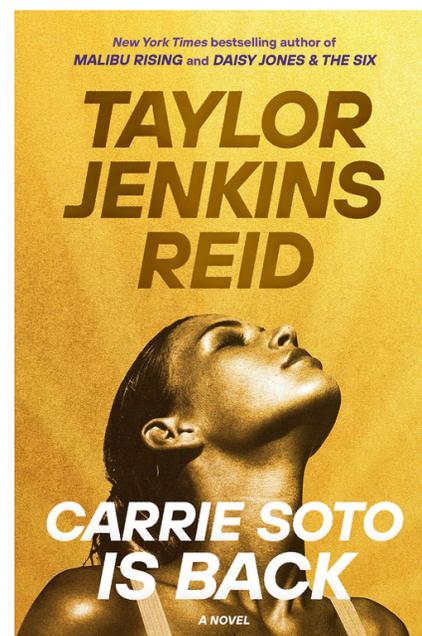
Synopsis

Carrie Soto is fierce, and her determination to win at any cost has not made her popular. But by the time she retires from tennis, she is the best player the world has ever seen. She has shattered every record and claimed twenty Grand Slam titles. And if you ask Carrie, she is entitled to every one. She sacrificed nearly everything to become the best, with her father, Javier, as her coach. A former champion himself, Javier has trained her since the age of two.

But six years after her retirement, Carrie finds herself sitting in the stands of the 1994 US Open, watching her record be taken from her by a brutal, stunning player named Nicki Chan.

At thirty-seven years old, Carrie makes the monumental decision to come out of retirement and be coached by her father for one last year in an attempt to reclaim her record. Even if the sports media says that they never liked the "Battle-Axe" anyway. Even if her body doesn't move as fast as it did. And even if it means swallowing her pride to train with a man she once almost opened her heart to: Bowe Huntley. Like her, he has something to prove before he gives up the game forever.

In spite of it all, Carrie Soto is back, for one epic final season.



Discussion Questions

1. What did you think about her dad's tennis coaching? Did your opinion of him change over the course of the novel?
2. Out of all the side characters she could have chosen to dedicate an entire book to, why do you think that TJR chose Carrie Soto? What did you think of her as a character?
3. Carrie was given many nicknames over her career such as the "Battleaxe" and the "Bitch." Do you think that she lived up to those names or was she misunderstood?
4. What did you think about the tennis matches? Did it make you want to pick up a racket or a remote?
5. What did you think about the relationship between Carrie and Nicki Chan?
6. How did her father's death affect her tennis game?
7. What did you think about the ending?

General Questions

1. Did you race to the end, or was it more of a slow burn?
2. What did you think of the writing overall? Were there any standout sentences?
3. Which was your favorite part? What about your least favorite?
4. Did reading the book impact your mood?
If yes, how so?

