

The Flatshare

Beth O'Leary

A charming London love story told through sticky notes between two flatmates who share a bed but have never met. It's warm, funny, and quietly tender.

Reading level: Easy

Best for: a club that loves heartwarming contemporary fiction with banter, big feelings, and a happy sigh at the end

Discussion

WARM-UP

1. Settle in with your tea: which scene made you smile so much you wanted to read it aloud to someone?
2. If you found a sticky note from a stranger on your fridge, what would you hope it said?




DIGGING IN

1. Tiffy and Leon's flat slowly turns into a kind of home. What makes a space feel like home to you, and did this book make you want to change anything about your own?
2. The notes between them feel cozy and intimate even before they meet. Have you ever felt close to someone through writing, letters, texts, or even a journal exchange?
3. Friendship is just as warm as the romance here. Whose friend group did you want to crash, and which friend would you call on a hard day?
4. The book gently holds some heavier moments inside its softness. What surprised you about how those harder threads were handled?




GOING DEEP

1. Tiffy slowly learns to trust her own version of events again. Was there a moment in the story that resonated with a time you had to relearn how to trust yourself or someone else?
2. Without giving anything away, what did this book leave you carrying around the next day, a feeling, an image, a small bit of comfort?

On the table

-  **Leon-style leftover bakes in mini ramekins**
A nod to the cozy meals left in the fridge with a little note on top, perfect comfort food for sharing
-  **Buttery scones with jam and clotted cream**
A warm, very British treat that suits the London flat setting and a relaxed evening on the couch
-  **Brownies stacked with sticky notes on top**
A sweet, gooey wink at the Post-it notes that start it all

To sip

-  **A proper pot of English breakfast tea (no alcohol)**
Bring extra mugs; this is a book that practically begs to be read with tea
-  **Honey vanilla steamer (no alcohol)**
Warm milk, honey, and vanilla for anyone wanting something soothing and caffeine-free
-  **Elderflower gin fizz**
Light, floral, and a little celebratory, like a London spring evening

Run of show

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 7:00 | Soft landing Greet guests in slippers or socks, pour tea, let people graze on scones while music plays |
| 7:20 | Warm-up chat Pass around the warm-up questions on little note cards while everyone settles into the couch |
| 7:40 | Sticky note swap Hand out Post-its and have everyone write a kind anonymous note; redistribute at the end of the night |
| 7:50 | Main discussion Move into theme questions, then ease into the deeper ones once people are cozy |
| 8:40 | Trivia and brownies Bring out the brownie tray and run the trivia round as a light palate cleanser |
| 9:00 | Scorecards and soft goodbyes Fill out scorecards together, swap Post-it notes, send guests home with a bookmark |

HOST TIPS

- Keep lighting low and warm: lamps and candles over overhead lights make conversation softer
- Have a stack of blankets nearby; people open up more when they are physically comfortable
- If a question lands flat, just smile and move on, this vibe is about ease, not a perfect discussion

Playlist

soft indie pop and acoustic love songs, like fairy lights in a small flat

- | | |
|---|--|
| 01 Lover - Taylor Swift | 02 The Book of Love - Peter Gabriel |
| 03 Put Your Records On - Corinne Bailey Rae | 04 Sweet Disposition - The Temper Trap |
| 05 First Day of My Life - Bright Eyes | 06 Banana Pancakes - Jack Johnson |
| 07 Bloom - The Paper Kites | 08 Northern Wind - City and Colour |

Trivia

1. Who wrote The Flatshare? (Beth O'Leary)
2. In what year was The Flatshare first published? (2019)
3. In which city is the novel mostly set? (London)
4. The two main characters share what unusual household arrangement? (A flat and a bed, on opposite schedules, so they never meet)
5. What everyday office supply do they use to communicate? (Sticky notes (Post-it notes))
6. What is Leon's profession? (He works as a palliative care nurse)
7. What field does Tiffany work in? (Book publishing, as an editor)
8. The Flatshare was later adapted into what kind of screen project? (A television series)

Rate the book

Coziness ☆☆☆☆☆

Swoon factor ☆☆☆☆☆

Warmth of friendships ☆☆☆☆☆

Comfort reread potential ☆☆☆☆☆

Made me feel seen ☆☆☆☆☆

One word for how this book made me feel: _____

The scene I want tucked in my pocket forever: _____

A tiny kindness from the book I want to try this week: _____

YOU'RE INVITED

Pajamas, tea, and one very chatty fridge

Come curl up for a cozy night of The Flatshare. Bring slippers, your softest cardigan, and a willingness to be charmed.



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