

THE 5TH ANNUAL
ONE BOOK, ONE READ



FULTON COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM

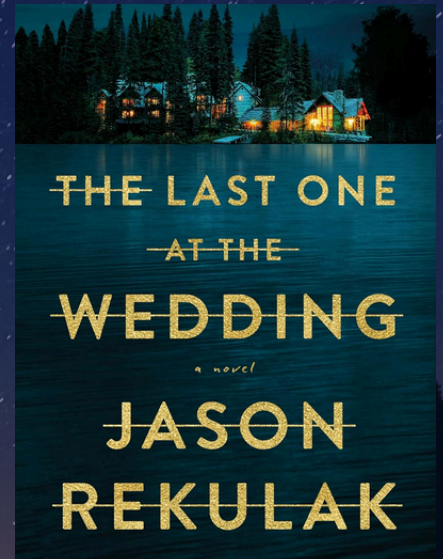


atlanta-fulton
public library
foundation

BEFORE

THE FINAL CHAPTER

READER'S GUIDE FOR
THE LAST ONE AT THE WEDDING



A STORY WORTH SHARING

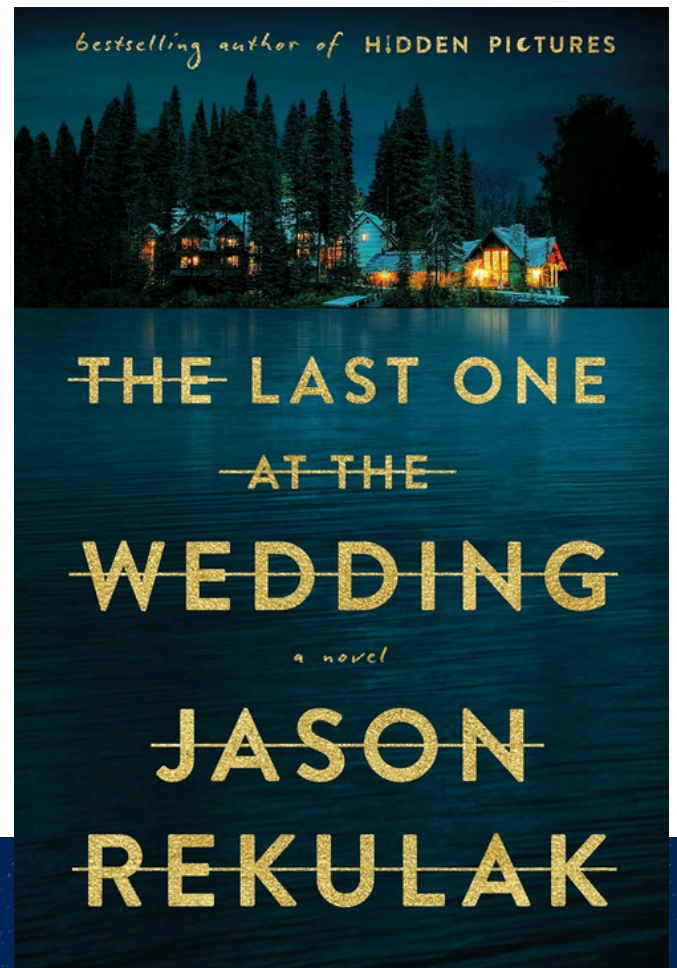
About One Book, One Read

One Book, One Read is Fulton County Library System's annual community reading initiative, inviting readers across the county to experience the same book together.

By reading a shared title, we create space for conversation, connection, and new perspectives. Whether you're reading on your own, with a book club, or attending a library discussion, this program is designed to bring people together through story.

This year, we invite you to step into a celebration filled with tension, secrets, and unexpected turns.

This campaign is sponsored by the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library Foundation.



How to Participate



Pick up a copy at your local library or online



Bring a friend, a question, or a theory



Read *The Last One at the Wedding*

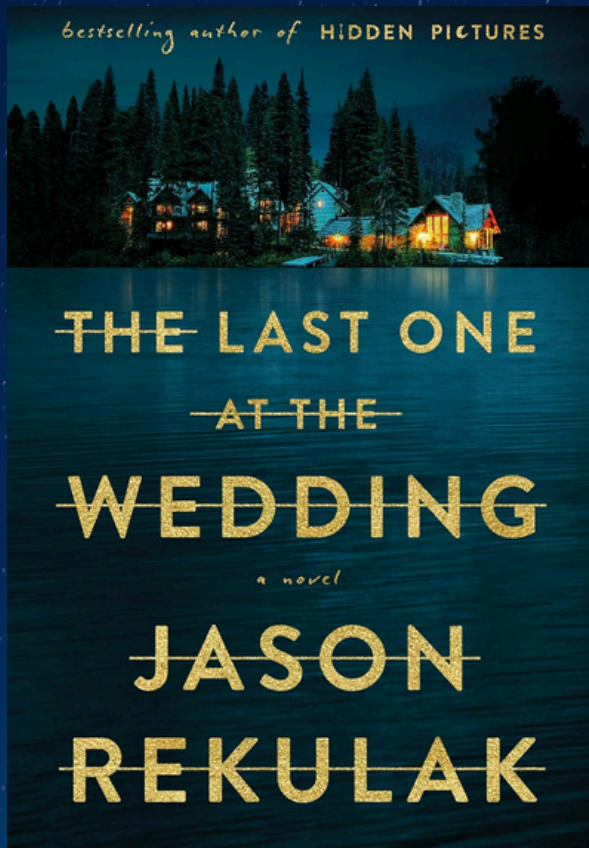


Share your thoughts with others in your community



Attend a One Book, One Read discussion or book club

*Every reader brings a different perspective.
That's where the conversation begins.*



ABOUT THE LAST ONE AT THE WEDDING

From the bestselling author of *Hidden Pictures* comes a breathtaking work of suspense about a father trying to save his daughter from a life-altering decision that will put everything he loves on the line.

A wedding. A reunion. A weekend full of secrets.

Frank Szatowski is shocked when his daughter calls him for the first time in three years. He believed their estrangement was permanent. When she invites him to her wedding in New Hampshire, he's determined to finally make things right.

But the wedding is unlike anything he expected. It's held at a secluded estate, and Maggie's fiancé comes from a powerful, wealthy family. As Frank tries to reconnect, he realizes something isn't right.

The deeper he looks, the more unsettling things become. And if he pushes too far, he risks losing his daughter forever.

An edge-of-your-seat thriller about family, secrets, and how far a father will go to make things right.



ABOUT JASON REKULAK

Jason Rekulak worked in book publishing for twenty years and edited more than a dozen New York Times bestsellers. His own novels include *The Last One at the Wedding*, *The Impossible Fortress* (an Edgar Award finalist), and the one-million-copy bestseller *Hidden Pictures*. His work has been translated into more than forty languages. He lives in Philadelphia with his wife and children.

START the Conversation

Library branches across Fulton County will host book discussions throughout the One Book, One Read season. Whether you're a longtime reader or just getting started, these gatherings offer a space to explore the story with others.

Prefer to host your own discussion? This guide includes questions to help you lead the conversation.

Use this book club guide to facilitate your One Book, One Read book club.



Keep track of time

Whether your discussion lasts an hour or two, conversations can easily run long. Assign a specific amount of time to each question to keep the discussion balanced and allow time for open conversation and mingling at the end.



Keep the Discussion Going

Participants may sometimes share experiences that drift from the main topic. Be respectful, but gently guide the conversation back on track to keep the discussion moving.



Allow many voices

The key to a great discussion is active participation and engagement. Don't hesitate to invite input from someone who hasn't spoken yet—they might just be a little shy.



Share your experience on social media

Help us spread the word and invite others to join this amazing initiative that brings Fulton County residents together through the power of reading.

BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

In the opening chapters, we learn that Frank and his daughter Maggie have been estranged for three years. Did you jump to any conclusions about their relationship? Were any of your early assumptions correct?

What were your first impressions of the narrator, Frank? Did your understanding of his character change over the course of the novel?

If you have children, have you ever worried that you can't see your own children objectively, that your assessment of their character has been clouded by maternal or paternal love?

The novel begins with this sentence: "My phone lit up with the words UNKNOWN CALLER, which usually meant some kind of scam, but I guess I felt like talking because I answered anyway." In interviews, author Jason Rekulak has claimed that this sentence foreshadows a great deal of the novel and its characters. What do you think he's talking about?



Frank spends most of his time at Osprey Cove rubbing shoulders with multi-millionaires and feeling like a fish out of water. Have you ever found yourself in a situation where you felt out of place? Did this situation have any impact on your judgment or decision-making? Was it difficult to remain true to yourself?

Errol Gardner claims that adultery is natural, "that men -- especially wealthy and powerful men -- have an evolutionary imperative to mate with as many women as possible." He insists "they all do it, all the titans of industry, Jeff Bezos, Bill Gates, all your movie stars, all your NFL quarterbacks, and of course all your politicians." Do you agree or disagree? Support your answer with examples.



BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

Over the course of the novel, we learn that Maggie has been involved in a series of increasingly serious crimes (package theft, college plagiarism, arson, insurance fraud, and so on). When did it occur to you that Frank was blinded by love for his own child, that he was incapable of seeing Maggie clearly?

On page 278, the "last one at the wedding" is revealed to be Abigail. The ten-year-old foster child spends the first half of the book inconveniencing Frank, but by the end of the novel he will stop at nothing to protect her. How do you explain this shift in their relationship?

Why is Frank so troubled by the television news story on page 61? Can you think of any other hints that foreshadow revelations from later in the novel?

Tammy is surprisingly clear-eyed about Maggie's history of criminal behavior. She says Frank will be much happier if he simply accepts Maggie for who she is. Do you agree or disagree?



A central theme of the novel is estrangement between parents and their adult children -- in this case, because Frank and Maggie have different values that can't be reconciled. Have you witnessed any similar conflicts in your own life?

The novel ends with Frank attempting to visit his daughter on his birthday. Do you think he and Maggie will ever reconcile their differences?

On page 178, Vicky gives Frank a warning: "Every parent is an unreliable narrator. We think we know our kids better than anyone. But none of us can see them objectively." Do you agree or disagree? Are there any aspects of your life that you've kept hidden from your mother and/or father? Or are there aspects of your life that they are simply incapable of seeing?



SCHEDULE BOOK DISCUSSION

———— **Adams Park** ————
August 4 2231 Campbellton Rd SW,
6:30 - 7:30PM Atlanta, GA 30311

———— **Adamsville-Collier Heights** ————
August 22 3424 Martin Luther King Jr
2 - 3PM Dr SW, Atlanta, GA 30331

———— **Alpharetta** ————
August 4 / 4PM 10 Park Plaza,
August 18 / 4PM Alpharetta, GA 30009

———— **Buckhead** ————
August 17 269 Buckhead Ave NE,
5:30 - 6:30PM Atlanta, GA 30305

———— **Central** ————
August 17 Virtually. Please visit
7 - 8PM fulcolibrary.org/central-library for more details.

———— **Cleveland Avenue** ————
August 22 47 Cleveland Ave SW,
11AM -12:30PM Atlanta, GA 30315

———— **College Park** ————
August 29 3647 Main St, College
1 - 2 PM Park, GA 30337

———— **Dogwood** ————
August 18 1838 Donald Lee Hollowell
6 - 7:30PM Pkwy NW, Atlanta, GA 30318

———— **East Atlanta** ————
August 17 400 Flat Shoals Ave SE,
5 - 6PM Atlanta, GA 30316

———— **East Point** ————
August 8 2757 Main St,
11 - 12:30PM East Point, GA 30344

———— **East Roswell** ————
July 28 2301 Holcomb Bridge Rd,
1 - 2 PM Roswell, GA 30076

———— **Evelyn G. Lowery @ Cascade** ————
August 24 3665 Cascade Rd SW,
6:00 - 7:00PM Atlanta, GA 30331

———— **Fairburn** ————
July 18 60 Valley View Dr,
5 - 6PM Fairburn, GA 30213

———— **Gladys Dennard @ South Fulton** ————
July 22 4055 Flat Shoals Rd,
12 - 2PM Union City, GA 30291

———— **Hapeville** ————
August 18 525 King Arnold St,
6:30 - 7:30PM Hapeville, GA 30354

———— **Joan P. Garner @ Ponce De Leon** ————
July 28 980 Ponce De Leon Ave NE,
6 - 7PM Atlanta, GA 30306

———— **Kirkwood** ————
August 24 11 Kirkwood Rd NE,
5 - 7PM Atlanta, GA 30317

———— **Louise Watley @ Southeast** ————
July 25 1463 Pryor Rd SW,
1 - 2PM Atlanta, GA 30315

———— **Martin Luther King, Jr.** ————
August 15 409 John Wesley Dobbs
10 -11:30AM Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30312

———— **Mechanicsville** ————
August 29 400 Formwalt St SW,
3 - 4PM Atlanta, GA 30312

———— **Metropolitan** ————
August 18 1332 Metropolitan Pkwy SW,
6:30 - 7:30PM Atlanta, GA 30310

———— **Milton** ————
August 19 855 Mayfield Rd,
12 - 1PM Milton, GA 30009

SCHEDULE BOOK DISCUSSION

Northeast/Spruill Oaks

August 17 2757 Main St,
5 - 6PM East Point, GA 30344

Northside

August 11 3295 Northside Pkwy NW,
6:00 - 7:00PM Atlanta, GA 30327

Northwest

August 27 2489 Perry Blvd NW,
12 - 1:30PM Atlanta, GA 30318

Ocee

August 11 5090 Abbotts Bridge Rd,
4 - 5:30PM Johns Creek, GA 30005

Palmetto

August 3 9111 Cascade Palmetto
5:30 - 6:30PM Hwy, Palmetto, GA 30268

Peachtree

August 20 1315 Peachtree St NE,
2 - 3PM Atlanta, GA 30309

Roswell

August 21 115 Norcross St,
2 - 3PM Roswell, GA 30075

Sandy Springs

August 6 395 Mount Vernon Hwy NE,
2 - 3PM Sandy Springs, GA 30328

Washington Park

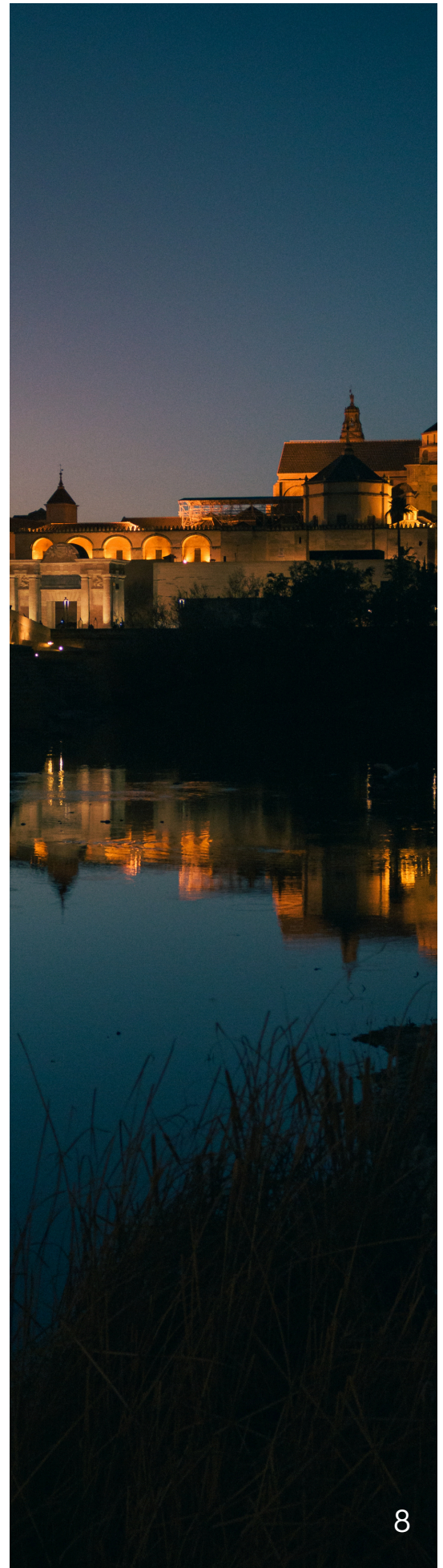
August 11 1116 M.L.K. Jr Dr SW,
5:30 - 6:30PM Atlanta, GA 30314

West End

August 10 525 Peebles St SW,
5 - 6PM Atlanta, GA 30310

Wolf Creek

August 27 3100 Enon Rd,
12 - 2PM Atlanta, GA 30331



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHO CAN BE INVOLVED?

Everyone! We are looking for community members, thought leaders, and curious readers to engage in reading the book with your friends and community. Gather a group from your family, religious organization, civic group, sorority or fraternity, job, or friends to read and discuss the book together.

DOES ONE BOOK ONE READ COST ANYTHING?

No! Participation in One Book, One Read is completely free. You can check out the featured title from your local library or access it through our digital resources.

WHERE CAN I GET THE BOOK?

There are approximately 500 copies in circulation in the Fulton County Library System. Local retailers, such as ACapella Books, are committed to having copies of the book in stock.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THIS EVENT? WHEN DO I NEED TO SIGN UP?

There is no deadline to sign up.

- May - September 2026: Read! Book clubs will meet every month.
- September 19, 2026: One Book, One Read author talk from 11am-2pm, Central Library



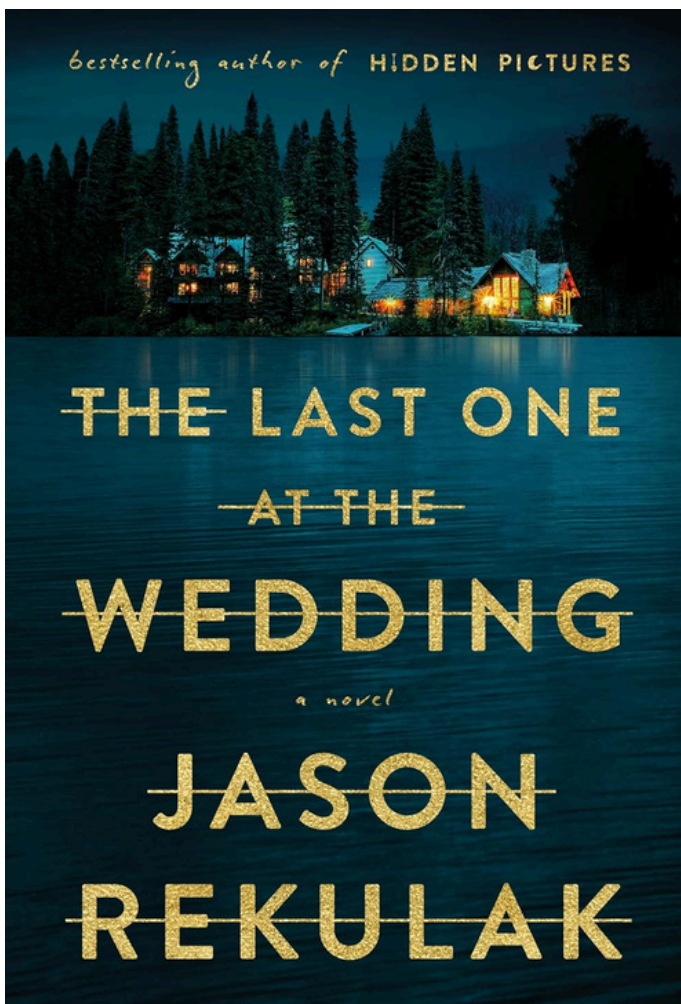
THE 5TH ANNUAL ONE BOOK, ONE READ

INVITES YOU TO THE

LAST ONE

AT THE

WEDDING



Save your seat

fulcolibrary.org/obor



Saturday, September 19 • 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Central Library

Live with Author

Jason Rekulak

Moderated by

Karyn Greer

