

Gold Coast Book Lovers

It's all about good books...

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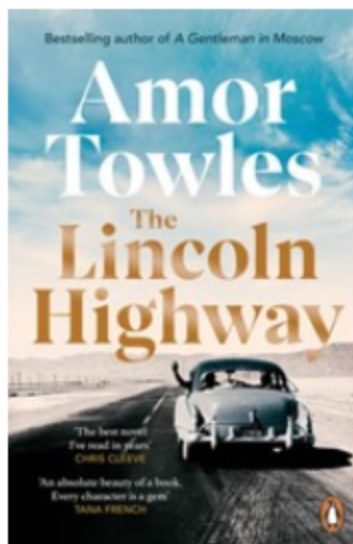
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May 2022



The Lincoln Highway is the third novel written by Amor Towles and was published in October 2021.

The story begins in June, 1954, when eighteen-year-old Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the juvenile work farm in Kansas, where he has just served fifteen months for involuntary manslaughter. His mother long gone, his father recently deceased, and the family farm foreclosed upon by the bank, Emmett's intention is to pick up his eight-year-old brother, Billy, and head to California where they can start their lives anew.

But when the warden drives away, Emmett discovers that two friends from the work farm had hidden themselves in the trunk of the warden's car. Together, they have hatched an altogether different plan for Emmett's future, one that will take them all on a fateful journey in the opposite direction—to the City of New York.

On that journey, they encounter a memorable set of characters, including the Great Ulysses in search of his wife and child, the villainous Pastor John, Wooley's sister, Sarah, and are joined by the remarkable Sally from Nebraska. And all this in just 10 days!

Our discussion group all agreed that Towles is a vibrant storyteller and accomplished writer. Most were drawn into the book and despite preconceived ideas of what the title might offer, found it to be a most enjoyable read and were particularly impressed at how well the characters were developed. Towles use of multiple narrators providing different points of view and recollections of the same incidents was sometimes tedious but invariably provided yet another twist in the storyline. The use of ancient myths, legends, heroes and parables, introduced a multilayered effect, bringing to life the many aspects explored in the book, including brothers, love, friendship, the spirit of adventure, misfits that a world struggles to accommodate, and the heartbreak of tragedy.

The following link to Amor Towles website Q and A page provides lots of interesting information on The Lincoln Highway including the recipe for Fettucine Mio Amore

The Lincoln Highway: Q and A



When I finish writing a novel, I find myself wanting to head in a new direction. That's why after writing *Rules of Civility*—which describes a year in the life of a young woman about to climb New York's socioeconomic ladder—I was eager to write *A Gentleman in Moscow*—which describes three decades in the life of a Russian aristocrat who's just lost everything. The Lincoln Highway allowed me to veer again in that the novel focuses on three eighteen-year-old boys on a journey in 1950s America that lasts only ten days.



Amor Towles



Ratings: Janet 3.5, Dianne 3.5, Pauline 4, Jen 4, Di 4, Nicola 4, Cheryl 4, Jenny 4, Lynda 4, Sandy 3, Viv 3.5

Our Book Club has moved day and location, and our next meeting will be Tuesday 13/06/2022 at 6:30pm at the QCWA Mermaid Beach Centre located in 43 Ventura Rd, Mermaid Beach.

Come and join us to discuss *The Good People* by Hannah Kent. Hope to see you there and
Happy Reading!

The 2022 Reading List can be found [here](#).

Other Books We Read

May 2022

This is Happiness by Niall Williams, 4.5

The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck, 3.5

A Pale View of Hills by Kazuo Ishiguro, 3.5

The Lighthouse Witches by C J Cooke, 3

Pulse by Julian Barnes, 3.5

Violeta by Isabel Allende, 3.5

Elizabeth Finch by Julian Barnes, 3.5

Piranesi by Susanna Clarke, 4

By the sea by Abdulrazak Gurnah, 4

The Tolstoy Estate by Steven Conte, 3.5

Again, Rachel by Marion Keyes, 3

Wide Sargasso Sea by Jean Rhys, 4