
Kennebecasis Public Library – Book Club Program

Librarian: Madaline Boutilier

Email: Madaline.boutilier@gnb.ca **Phone:** (506) 849-5314 and ask for her.

Please let Kirstin know which book(s) are selected so she can contact Madaline to reserve the book(s) the club wants to read next.

Date of next meeting: Thursday, August 24, 2023, at 1:30PM

The Guncle, by Steven Rowley

About the Author: **Steven Rowley** is the New York Times bestselling author of Lily and the Octopus, a Washington Post Notable Book of 2016, The Editor, named by NPR as one of the Best Books of 2019, The Guncle, a Goodreads Choice Awards finalist for 2021 Novel of the Year and winner of The 22nd Thurber Prize for American Humor, and The Celebrants, a TODAY Show Read With Jenna Book Club pick. His fiction has been published in twenty languages. All of his books are in development for feature film or television adaptation.

Originally from Portland, Maine, he is a graduate of Emerson College and currently resides in Palm Springs with his husband, the writer Byron Lane and two rescue dogs.

A) Here are 15 discussion questions to help kick-off discussion. Members can take turns reading the question aloud.

- 1.** Why did Greg ask Patrick to serve as the children's caregiver for the summer?
- 2.** Through flashbacks, we learn how close Patrick and Sara were. What did you think about their friendship?
- 3.** What was behind the tension and friction between Clara and Patrick?
- 4.** Which 'Guncle Rule' is your favorite?
- 5.** Let's talk about how Patrick shut himself off from the outside world after Joe died.
- 6.** Why did he give up acting?

7. While there is a lot of humor in the book, there are plenty of poignant scenes as well. Which heartfelt scenes stuck out to you the most?
8. How did this experience taking care of Maisie and Grant help him process his own grief and also be accepting of love?
9. What did you think about the ending and Patrick's return to acting? Will the kids spend every summer with Patrick going forward?
10. What do you feel are some of the lessons from the book?
11. The book will be updated for film – so exciting! Who do you think should play Patrick and other key roles?

B) Book questions and discussion from Book Club Members.

C) Discussion and choosing of the next book to read (by popular vote).

August Book: The Diary of a Bookseller, by Shaun Bythell
