## Spend a day with us for a month with Community Read

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Charlotte Mecklenburg Library has selected five books that all take place within a 24-hour time span to celebrate Community Read 2017.

**Charlotte, NC – September 22, 2017 –** Spend a day with us for a month. Charlotte Mecklenburg Library has selected *Today Will Be Different*, the critically acclaimed novel by Maria Semple, as the signature title for this year's Community Read, to be read and discussed by those in the Charlotte - Mecklenburg community.

*Today Will Be Different*, and similarly-themed titles chosen for younger audiences, will become the focus of events and activities taking place throughout October. The companion titles for younger readers are: *The Sun Is Also a Star* by Nicola Yoon (for teens), *11 Birthdays* by Wendy Mass (for preteens), *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt and *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats (both for children).

"A Community Read is designed to bring people together to talk about a single book and to establish a community of readers and learners," said Dana Eure, the Library's Associate Director of Lifelong Learning and coordinator of this year's Community Read events. "Maria Semple's *Today Will Be Different* was chosen as the Community Read title for 2017 for numerous reasons. Semple uses humor to connect people emotionally. With so many challenges, conflicts and disagreements in our community and world today, this comedic novel will give readers the opportunity to laugh out loud as they discuss important and relevant issues with humor, laughter and fun."

Events that are being planned include:

- <u>Meet authors of this year's book selections for adults and teens</u>: Maria Semple (Oct. 2) and Nicola Yoon (Oct. 6)
- Today Will Be Different Film Series 12 Movies in Reel Time
- <u>The Art of Comics with Andy Smith</u>: Oct. 14 at Main Library, Oct. 18 at Beatties Ford Road Regional
- Read it and see it: Children's Theatre of Charlotte present *The Snowy Day and Other Stories*
- Plus, activities for children, teens and adults; Escape Rooms at library branches and more.

Community Read also encourages participation in discussions of the ideas raised in the featured books, and examination of how these ideas connect with our daily lives and local communities. The community can engage in the Community Read by reading (or listening to) the book, talking about it, attending Library programs, engaging with the Library on social media, and sharing an enthusiasm for reading.

For more information about this year's Community Read, including upcoming events, visit <u>cmlibrary.org/communityread</u>. Events will be posted as they are announced.

## **BOOK SUMMARIES:**

All titles can be found in the Library's catalog in various formats at cmlibrary.org.

<u>Today Will Be Different</u> by Maria SempleIt's a day in the life of Eleanor Flood, forced to abandon her small ambitions and awake to a strange, new future.

<u>The Sun Is Also a Star</u> by Nicola YoonNatasha, whose family is hours away from being deported, and Daniel, a first generation Korean American who strives to live up to his parents' expectations, unexpectedly fall in love and must determine which path they will choose in order to be together.

<u>11 Birthdays</u> by Wendy MassAmanda and Leo, best friends with the same birthday, had a falling out on their tenth birthday and have not spoken since, but peculiar things begin to happen as the day of their eleventh birthday repeats itself again and again.

<u>The Day the Crayons Ouit</u> by Drew DaywaltWhen Duncan arrives at school one morning, he finds a stack of letters, one from each of his crayons, complaining about how he uses them.

The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack KeatsThe adventures of a little boy in the city on a very snowy day.

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**Media Resources:**Charlotte Mecklenburg Library newsroom: <u>http://news.cision.com/charlotte-</u> <u>mecklenburg-library</u>Program site: <u>www.cmlibrary.org/communityread</u>

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