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**Suggested Reads**

*Big Chicas Don't Cry*

[Annette Chavez Marcias](#)

*Sankofa*

[Chibundu Onuzo](#)

*González and Daughter Trucking Co.*

[Maria Amparo Escandón](#)

*On the Rooftop*

[Margaret Wilkerson Sexton](#)

*Velvet Was The Night*

[Silvia Moreno-Garcia](#)

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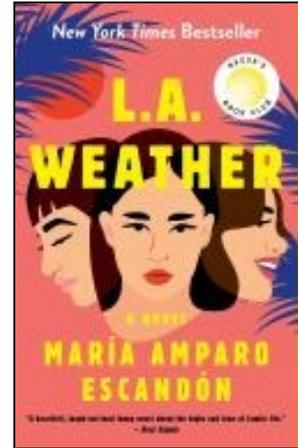
JANUARY 2023 ADULT SERVICES

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## Book Club Kit

*L.A. Weather* by Maria Amparo Escandón



**From the Publisher**

L.A. is parched, dry as a bone, and all Oscar, the weather-obsessed patriarch of the Alvarado family, desperately wants is a little rain. He's harboring a costly secret that distracts him from everything else. His wife, Keila, desperate for a life with a little more intimacy and a little less Weather Channel, feels she has no choice but to end their marriage. Their three daughters—Claudia, a television chef with a hard-hearted attitude; Olivia, a successful architect who suffers from gentrification guilt; and Patricia, a social media wizard who has an uncanny knack for connecting with audiences but not with her lovers—are blindsided and left questioning everything they know. Each will have to take a critical look at her own relationships and make some tough decisions along the way. With quick-wit and humor, Maria Amparo Escandón follows the Alvarado family as they wrestle with impending evacuations, secrets, deception, and betrayal, and their toughest decision yet: whether to stick together or burn it all down.



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## Discussion Topics

1. The Alvarados face many challenges in *L.A. Weather*. Which situation seemed the most challenging to you? What would you have done instead?
2. Discuss Keila and Oscar's relationship. Do you think she did the right thing? Do you think she made the right decision regarding Simon?
3. Discuss all three sisters' relationships. How do you think each sister grows over time and how does the relationship with their significant other change them?
4. The common cultural perception of Los Angeles often involves Hollywood stars, sunny skies, and Kardashian-esque image obsession and material aspiration. How would you describe the Alvarados' Los Angeles? What does Los Angeles represent to you?
5. Lola takes issue with Olivia's architecture and house-flipping projects that are taking over L.A. neighborhoods. How is gentrification portrayed in the novel?
6. Food is very important to the Alvarado family and Claudia in particular, and they often have family meetings around meals. How does the author use food to explore the family's mixed cultural heritage?
7. Throughout the book, Patricia's teenage child, Dani, is exploring their evolving relationship with gender and identity. What did you take away from Dani's experience?



## Author Biography

María Amparo Escandón is a New York Times best-selling bilingual author (English and Spanish.) Her third novel, *L.A. Weather*, published by Flatiron Books, a division of Macmillan Publishers is a Reese's Book Club pick and is featured on Oprah Quarterly as well as a Best Book of the Month in Barnes & Noble, Alta, People, PopSugar, Bustle, CNN, E! News, Ms. Magazine, Nylon, GMA, and more.

She wrote her first novel, *Esperanza's Box of Saints* and its Spanish version, *Santitos*, published in late 1999 by Simon & Schuster and Random House respectively. Her novel has been the number one best seller in the Los Angeles Times Best Sellers List, it has 21 foreign editions and has been read in over 86 countries. Her new novel, *González & Daughter Trucking Co.* and its Spanish version, *Transportes González e Hija*, was published in 2005 by Random House. It has been in best sellers lists around the country and is the publisher's "Book of the Year" in Spain. She has been named Writer to Watch by Newsweek magazine and by the Los Angeles Times. Her books have been chosen as the annual book selection for several Community Reads public library-funded projects, including Deschutes Public Library's A Novel Idea.

Photo Credit: AUTHOR'S WEBSITE

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