

Every Version of You

READING GROUP GUIDE

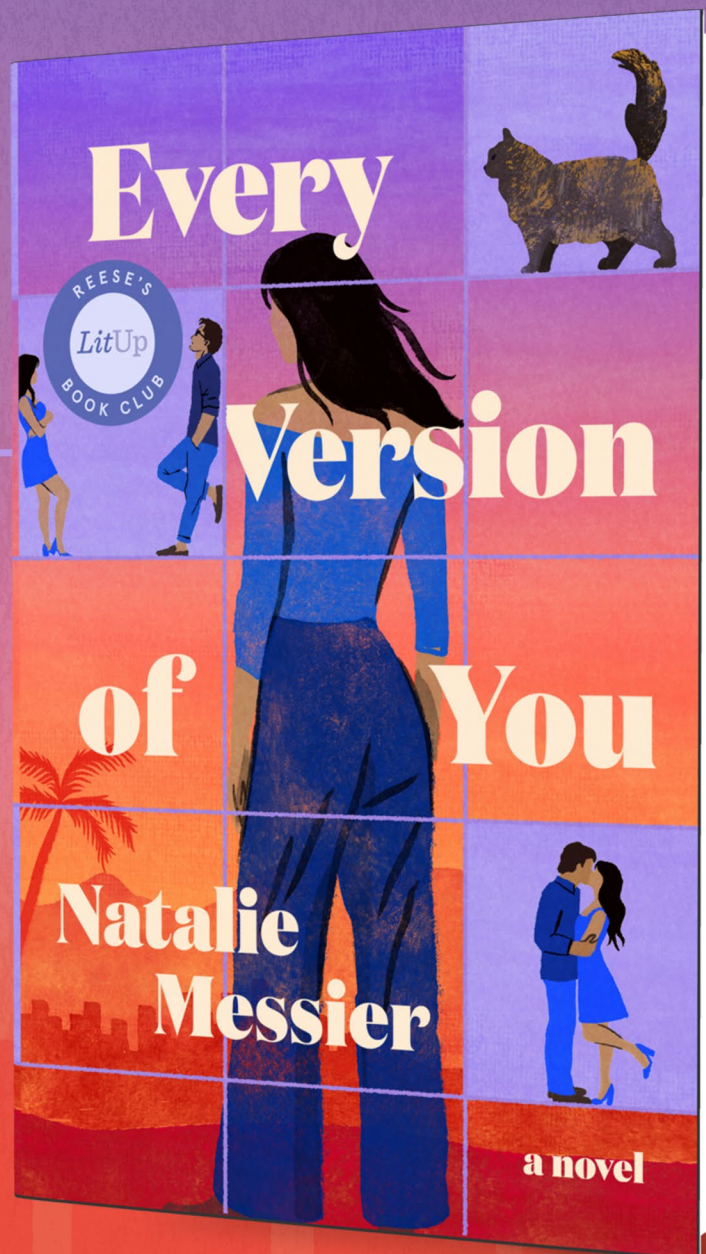
"If you like your love stories messy (and I really do), then you must read Natalie Messier's debut, *Every Version of You*. The characters are complicated, their decisions questionable, and their chemistry palpable. Natalie Messier is one of romance's rising stars."

— CARLEY FORTUNE,

#1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *One Golden Summer*

Joey Vasquez may be a professional success, but she's a personal disaster. The 32-year-old Los Angeles lawyer is on the cusp of making partner, yet her social life mostly consists of nights spent watching TV with her elderly cat, Ruthie. Worse, she's been pining for her (now married) best friend, Ellie, since they met as college freshmen in 2012. And then, on her way home from a painfully awkward dinner party, everything changes in a flash...

When Joey is given a do-over at life, she finds herself in college again. Armed with memories from her first life, Joey is certain she's come back to convince Ellie, the one who got away, to fall in love with her. So why does she find herself strangely drawn to Alex, the man she thought she hated?



SPOILER-FREE

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Haven't finished the book yet? Here are a few spoiler-free questions to consider as you dive into Joey's story...

- 1) If you were given the opportunity to return to a previous point in your life and relive it, would you take it? What age would you return to and why? What would you do differently?
- 2) If you found yourself eighteen again, what elements from your current life would you miss? Are there any moments that you would try to ensure happen the same way?
- 3) Is there anything you wish you had done differently throughout your life that you could implement as a change going forward?
- 4) Do you believe in the concept of a "right way" and a "wrong way" to live? If so, what does the right way look like?



SPOILER-Y

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Ready to talk about all those surprising twists and turns?
You've come to the right place!

- 1) In Chapter One, Joey is convinced that Cat hates her. Do you think Cat actually hates Joey, or is Joey projecting?
- 2) Did you predict what was revealed about Alex in Chapter Twenty-Five? If so, when?
- 3) In Chapter Twenty-Seven, Alex says that he's changed. Do you believe him? What about Joey? Is what Alex and Joey did the night of Ellie's wedding unforgivable?
- 4) Was Kimiko wrong to let Helen drink at the party? Do you think Joey will be able to help Helen go down a different path?
- 5) In the Epilogue, Joey observes that even though Madison has dated Ellie throughout college, she still thinks there's something there between Madison and Patrick. Who do you think Madison will end up with?
- 6) Throughout both her first and second lives, Joey struggles with whether to live her life for herself or for other people. Do you think it's possible to strike the right balance between the two, and if so, what does that look like to you?
- 7) Do you think Alex and Joey could have found their way back to each other in their first lives if she hadn't died after the dinner party?

