



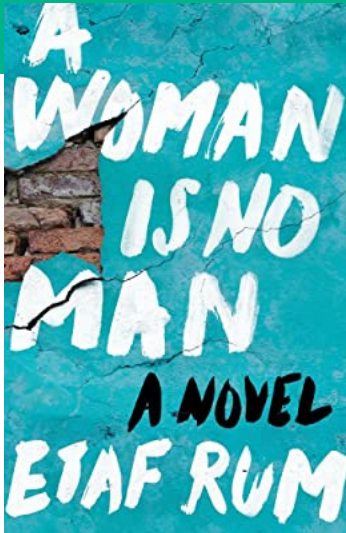
# ShelterBox

BOOK CLUB NORTH AMERICA

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2021



## CURRENTLY READING



### A WOMAN IS NO MAN

by Etaf Rum

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## ABOUT THE BOOK

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In Brooklyn, eighteen-year-old Deya is starting to meet with suitors. Though she doesn't want to get married, her grandparents give her no choice. History is repeating itself: Deya's mother, Isra, also had no choice when she left Palestine as a teenager to marry Adam. Though Deya was raised to believe her parents died in a car accident, a secret note from a mysterious, yet familiar-looking woman makes Deya question everything she was told about her past. As the narrative alternates between the lives of Deya and Isra, she begins to understand the dark, complex secrets behind her community.

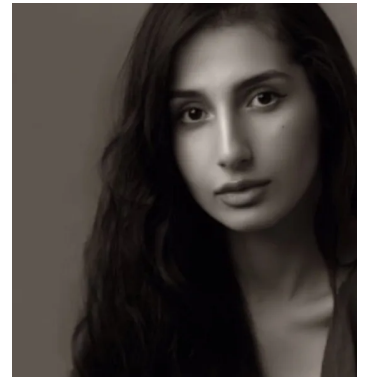
Set in an America at once foreign to many and staggeringly close at hand, *A Woman Is No Man* is a story of culture and honor, secrets and betrayals, love and violence. It is an intimate glimpse into a controlling and close cultural world, and a universal tale about family and the ways silence and shame can destroy those we have sworn to protect.

## MEET ETAF

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The daughter of Palestinian immigrants, Etaf Rum was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. She has a Masters of Arts in American and British Literature as well as undergraduate degrees in Philosophy and English Composition. Etaf teaches undergraduate courses in North Carolina, where she lives with her two children. She also runs the Instagram account @booksandbeans and is a Book of the Month Club Ambassador, showcasing her favorite selections each month.

*A Woman Is No Man* is her first novel. It has become a New York Times bestseller, hit the ninth spot on Amazon's Bestseller List, was the Read with Jenna TODAY SHOW Book Club pick for May 2019, and a Goodreads Choice Awards finalist for Best Fiction and Best Debut.



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR **A WOMAN IS NO MAN**

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**Question 1:**

What did you learn reading the book? Did you find any parts surprising?

**Question 2:**

What are the universal elements of Isra, Deya and Fareeda's story?

**Question 3:**

Do you think Sarah left mainly out of fear, or hope?

**Question 4:**

How is New York portrayed in the book?

**Question 5:**

Why do you think this family held onto some harmful traditions more than other families in the book?

**Question 6:**

What other books did *A Woman Is No Man* remind you of?

**Question 7:**

How did the end of the book make you feel?

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION

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Join the conversation in the ShelterBox Book Club North America Facebook Group!

The Facebook group is your opportunity to dive deeper and learn more. You'll participate in discussion about the book and what you've just read, but you'll also get to learn more about the people and places inspired by these books, as well as hearing directly from the authors. And you'll receive first hand stories from ShelterBox teams who've traveled around the world, visiting these countries to deliver aid.

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