



Season 4, Episode 42: Special Guest Kendra Adachi!

Mon, 6/6 • 1:05:23

SPEAKERS

Kendra Adachi, Kaytee Cobb, Meredith Monday Schwartz

Meredith Monday Schwartz 00:10

Hey readers. Welcome to the Currently Reading podcast. We are bookish best friends who spend time every week talking about the books that we've read recently. And as you know, we won't shy away from our strong opinions. So get ready.

Kaytee Cobb 00:24

We are light on the chitchat, heavy on the book talk and our descriptions will always be spoiler free. Today we'll discuss our current reads, a bookish deep dive, and then we'll press books into your hands.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 00:34

I'm Meredith Monday Schwartz, a mom of four and full time CEO living in Austin, Texas and being a genius about my reading is super important to me.

Kaytee Cobb 00:42

And I'm Kaytee Cobb, a homeschooling mom of four living in New Mexico. And when the world feels broken, I'm glad to be talking books. This is episode number 42 of season four, and we're so glad you're here. And today friends, we are so pleased to have Kendra Adachi joining us on Currently Reading. She is a New York Times best selling author twice over, the voice of The Lazy Genius Podcast and my personal spirit animal. She helps us be geniuses about the things that matter and lazy about the things that don't every single week. Kendra, welcome to Currently Reading.

Kendra Adachi 01:15

I am so happy to be here. Thanks for having me.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 01:18

We are thrilled. We are excited. We are total fan girls from back way before you even wrote the first book because we love your podcast and everything that you're doing. So having you on the show is a thrill.

Kendra Adachi 01:33

Thank you. Thank you. It's a thrill to be here. Anytime I get to talk about books because I don't usually get to do that. I'm like, Bring it on. I'm so excited.

Kaytee Cobb 01:41

Excellent. Love that. So as you may have guessed everyone, today our deep dive is going to be all about The Lazy Genius, which Lazy Genius principles apply to reading, how to utilize the seven P's to make your reading experience great. I'm very excited to get into all of this with you Kendra. But as we get started, we're going to start the way we always do, which is with our bookish moments of the week and Kendra as our guest, we would love for you to go first.

Kendra Adachi 02:05

Thank you. I had a splendid moment earlier this week when I finished a book on my porch swing as a thunderstorm rolled in. And there was something so deeply magical about it because I love I love a good outside read. I love a good summer thunderstorm. And the wind was blowing and I it's actually one of my books that I'm going to mention on the show. But it was like it had a great ending. And it made me so happy. And it was one of those like, it was one of those moments where I was like, This is why I love reading. So good. It's so good.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 02:41

It's like a full body experience

Kendra Adachi 02:43

It was. There were such so many senses being activated in that moment. It was just a delight. It makes me want to read on my front porch even more.

Kaytee Cobb 02:52

I love that so much. I'm getting ready for hammock weather here in New Mexico. So very excited to get into that as well. More outdoor reading, please. Meredith, have you been reading outdoors? What's your bookish moment?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 03:05

This morning, actually, I got a chance to read outdoors. It finally dipped under 60 degrees here in Texas and so I immediately knew I had to pack up and go outside for until it gets to be you know, 100 degrees again today. But my bookish moment of the week was that yesterday, Jackson, my 10 year old graduated from fifth grade, which is great and you're whatever fifth grade but I got a chance to talk to his teacher who I really, really love and she said to me, "I've loved having Jackson in my class. But what I've really loved is all the book recommendations," because I have started giving her, I found out kind of what her book tastes was, she's actually a neighbor, she lives just a couple houses down, and I've started sharing books and book recommendations with her. And so the fact that I think that that was more of a favorite thing for her with the Schwartz family than having my son in her class, there was a little competitive part of me that felt like that sort of a student so that was my inner seven year old came out.

Kaytee Cobb 04:01

You like won fifth grade?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 04:03

I beat, I beat Jackson. Exactly.

Kaytee Cobb 04:06

You're like leveling up now. I love that. I love it. Exactly, exactly. Okay, so for my bookish moment this week, I brought a new edition of nerdery with Kaytee, which was done after a few requests from bookish friends and a lot of googling. And like brain stretching, I was able to create a map that helps bookish friends find each other based on their zip code. So it's a very short Google form. And a bubble map fills in with little bubbles for everywhere that our patrons supporters or bookish friends are located. And like within an hour, somebody from Montana was like I already have three friends close to me. Montana, y'all. Oh, it was so exciting. Love it. So people are just like using that to get together. I already planned another bookish friends meetup for June at my house, which I'm very excited about. There's already 650 bubbles on that map, and it just keeps growing every time I log in. And the fact that I was able to find like the Google properties to be able to make it come true... This like dream I had had. I'm very excited about it. So that had to be my bookish moment.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 05:12

I love it. I think Bookish Nerdery with Kaytee would be fantastic additional Patreon content that we could do

Kaytee Cobb 05:18

Once a month I just come up with some kind of weird, nerdy ridiculousness. I love it. I love it. So good. Okay, those were our bookish moments, which means now it's time to get into current reads. And I'm so excited to hear what you both brought today. So Kendra, why don't you get us started.

Kendra Adachi 05:35

So the book that I finished on the porch as the thunderstorm rolled in was a book that everyone is reading right now. And I'm not usually a, like a new release reader, but I'm obsessed with Emily Henry. And I finished Book Lovers by Emily Henry. I loved it so much. I loved it so much. It's my favorite of her three. It's my favorite. So this book, I think one of the reasons I really love it is because it takes place loosely and kind of like the publishing world, the two main characters, one is a literary agent, and one is an editor. And I'm a writer, I'm an author. And so even the tiny detail in the beginning of the story, it's a story between Nora and Charlie. Nora is the agent. Charlie is an editor. It's one of those meet cutes where they hate each other at first, and you know, that's the trope, it's but that's my favorite. That's my favorite, like romance trope is they hate each other in the beginning, it's my absolute favorite. So they they don't like each other in the beginning. But the story centers around Nora going on a trip to North Carolina, which is where I live so that was also fun. Going on a trip with her sister to North Carolina is kind of like a break from both of their lives, and a reconnection. And they did this, this is such a tiny detail, but they do it in the month of August. Because in the books, the book says because publishing kind of shuts down, and it does you guys Publishing shuts down in August. I know this because my first

book came out in August, and I was like where all the people? Where'd they go? All of my team that was like doing things, it's like they were on vacation, because publishing shuts down in August.

Kendra Adachi 07:13

So even just how accurate it was for the industry. I really appreciated that detail. But I am just a sucker for a snarky dialogue romance. And this just it. It just fit the ticket. And I'm also a book caster. So I love to, I'm a cinematic reader and I always envision it with like people that I know. And so I cast this in the beginning pretty early on with Ryan Reynolds and Blake Lively, who are like a real life couple. And I can tell you something, Ryan Reynolds as Charlie was spot on spot on. I was so proud of that. Like it just kept paying off. It was so good, because I will sometimes change mid read if the casting is incorrect. But this one like came through to the end. So that was my first one Book Lovers by Emily Henry.

Kaytee Cobb 08:06

Oh my gosh, I was so happy that you brought that I all three of us have read that book, which is very exciting. Yes, everybody's read it.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 08:15

Right. In fact, Kendra, you have actually done something that I don't think has happened in four years of Currently Reading and I really, I don't know how it's we've not done it before but I actually had brought Book Lovers for one of my current reads today which is going to surprise a lot of people because I am not a rom com reader. So I'm gonna weigh in with my two cents because I absolutely agree with you Kendra, but I'm going to weigh in with my two cents and use this still as my current read because a lot of people are going to have their antenna up when I say that I read, you know, a rom com period. I hadn't read either one of her two previous books. And I find Emily Henry to be interesting because her first two books were so divisive, right? There were so many people who either loved one and hated the other. That's usually what we hear right, that they love one but but which one it is was really different. When Book Lovers came out, I actually got an arc of it, which is the only way I ever would have read it. Because I wouldn't have picked it up on my own. And as I started I really loved the premise. As you say it's my favorite kind of, you know, enemies to lovers, snarky. I love I love that. And I think Ryan Reynolds and Blake Lively are spot on casting for it. But I will say here was what was interesting about my reading experience of it. I really loved the first couple of chapters. I was like, "Oh, I'm loving this." Then I got to this place where I was like, I can't "Okay, I'm hate reading this book", because it's all these Hallmark movie tropes and you know, and I was like, "Oh my gosh, that's exactly what I thought it was going to be," rolling my eyes. I was texting Kaytee going "Kaytee I'm I'm gonna finish this book just so I can pan it on the show". And then I got to the second half. And I was like, "Oh, no. Oh no. Am I starting to care about these characters? Am I Am I starting to care what happens to their love and their romance?" And by the time I finished this book, y'all, I had tears in my cold dead eyes. I and I was like, "Kaytee, she got me. She got me". I went to Austin Literary Society meeting that night and I was like, "Y'all, she got me". Because we always do a book swap. And I brought it with me. And everyone who's read it now in that group has absolutely loved it. So I have to say, I am not the target audience for this book. But it's really, really good. It's it's fully fledged characters. It's a full, you know, it's a relationship that makes sense, coming together in a way that makes sense. The way that it happens in real life, which is not the way it happens in Hallmark movies. There's so much more depth

to this relationship and the family relationships that are going on. I absolutely loved it. So I'm, I'm sticking with it as my current read, solely because it was such a surprise to me.

Kendra Adachi 11:23

Can you see why it's a bookish moment that I finished that as a thunderstorm rolled in on the front porch swing?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 11:28

Absolutely. Because it's got perfect.... It's just Yes, this is a great summer read, which I know feels like a really obvious thing to say. But it's just if you if you like that kind of sweet spot of really caring about characters and what happens to them and feeling super invested in them being okay. Book Lovers by Emily Henry, you guys. You gotta get it.

Kaytee Cobb 11:52

It's so fun. I did not hate read but I did go in already knowing that Meredith had been hate reading. And I adored it. And I was one of those people like People We Meet on Vacation I actively loathed and then Beach Read I really loved but Book Lovers is a step above that, even for me. So that's my 1, 2, 3 for her. And I'm just gonna keep reading her stuff. I love her.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 12:15

Yeah, it seems like overall, the consensus is that this is by far her best one. Agreed.

Kaytee Cobb 12:20

I think that super bookish element makes people really happy too.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 12:24

There's a lot of inside baseball with, you know, with the publishing industry and kind of how all of that is working. I really, yeah, I liked it a lot.

Kaytee Cobb 12:32

Okay, well, that was our first two current reads, which were the same book, which is very fun and has never happened in almost 200 episodes. I'm just shocked that it hasn't happened. It's amazing. Okay, my first one this week is a middle grade book. It's Lily and Dunkin by Donna Gephardt. This is a sweet middle grade novel that tackles some really tough stuff. So here's the setup. Lily Jo McGrother is our main character and we meet her when she bravely steps out of her house wearing a dress one summer morning, in practice for the first day of school. She's brave because her dad wants his little boy Timothy back. But Lily Jo is not Timothy. He wants to protect his child from the bullying she is sure to receive if she follows through on the plan to wear a dress to school. And he's terrified for her. And that parenting element here is really special and really poignant. While outside that morning in a dress she meets Norbert Dorfman, which is the worst name ever. He's a new kid at school who hates his name, but just because it's a it's the worst name ever. It's horrible.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 13:41

It is. It it really is.

Kendra Adachi 13:43

It's pretty bad.

Kaytee Cobb 13:44

And he's he's carrying a Dunkin Donuts bag. So when he hesitates to answer, Lily's question, what's your name? Because he doesn't want to say his name is Norbert Dorfman, she says, "I'm going to call you Dunkin". And so they become Lily and Dunkin to each other. He wants to be someone different than who is, but not in the same way that Lily does. He's hiding a part of himself that he's sure also will not be accepted. It's pretty obvious from the setup that this book is going to tackle some tough themes. That is, it's definitely way more appropriate for an older middle grade reader than an eight year old. You don't want to hand this to your eight year old and be like here, "Why don't you learn about mental health and mood altering substances and, you know, transphobia in schools," and like, all of that is too much for an eight year old. But if you're already dealing with any of those topics, it may be a really great way to have those like hard conversations with each other. Because books do that, right? They just open up conversations. They make it able for us to connect on a deeper, deeper level. The thing that kept us from being a five star read for me is that while Donna Gephart really handled some of these issues really well, there were certain aspects of it that felt like a kitchen sink book like I am just throwing everything like "What's in the fridge? Let's put it in the book." Every single thing. And while we do have a little bit of a swing up by the end, the time it takes to get there is so hard. It's difficult for me to wholeheartedly endorse as like, "This is excellent. Everybody should read it". So for that reason I had to temper myself a little bit, but it was still very good. It's Lily and Dunkin by Donna Gephart.

Kaytee Cobb 14:28

That sounds very interesting.

Kaytee Cobb 14:45

This was like one that I just found on a shelf too in a bookstore in Pagosa Springs.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 15:23

Kendra, do you ever read middle grade? Does that ever, does middle grade ever come across your TBR?

Kendra Adachi 15:33

My other recent read is a middle grade novel. I do I really love middle grade. I do. It's it's a it's one of those quick wind genres for me. Yeah, because it's usually short. You can finish it quickly and kind of if I lose my momentum, and I don't have my momentum breaking book, The Ocean at the End of the Lane by Neil Gaiman, if I don't want to read that again, because that's always my get out of a rut book, I'll go to middle grade. It's always a good one.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 16:00

Yeah, absolutely.

Kaytee Cobb 16:02

Okay, what is your next current read then Kendra?

Kendra Adachi 16:04

It is The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate. I had never read this book. I had never read this book. So the the setup, which probably everyone knows, this is a classic, but it was a classic I've never read is about a gorilla named Ivan, who is a poet of a communicator, I tell you what that book is so beautifully written. And Ivan is a gorilla and a kind of a little a little zoo off the highway, and has a little stray dog friend and an elephant friend. And he does shows every day. And he doesn't, he feels like there is something else out there. But he doesn't fully know what that is. And then a little baby elephant joins their fledgling, struggling, little roadside circus named Ruby. And he vows to take care of Ruby. And he starts to see that Ruby cannot be taken care of in the context of that little struggling roadside circus. And so Ivan takes it upon himself to change her life. And I read this, this is the first time, this is why this is kind of special. It's the first time that I've had one of my kids, I have three kids 12, 10 and 6, and my two oldest are boys, and it is the first time that I've had a kid say to me, "Hey, Mom, will you read this book? I really loved it. I want to know what you think". And so of course, I was like, "Yes, my son, of course. Like, it's like I've been waiting for so long for you to ask me this question."

Kendra Adachi 17:33

And so he loved it. And I didn't know what to.... Well, I thought I knew what I was getting into because of what my boys usually read. They love Wimpy Kid. They love Dog Man. They love kind of like the typical things. They love Calvin and Hobbes. So when I opened The One and Only Ivan and I started to read it and it was so beautifully written. It was so thoughtful and poignant and the economy of words and the immediate characterization of this gorilla named Ivan. I was like, "My kid, I need to give him more credit." Like this is impressive. So I read it in a day because it's like so quick and sweet and just absolutely loved it. Partly because Ben asked me to read it, and then we got to talk about it. But really, it's just a tremendous book. So if, if there's anybody who hasn't read it before, I highly, highly recommend The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate.

Kaytee Cobb 18:26

That's how I ended up reading that book Kendra was my kid pressed it into my hands. Yeah, yes. Was it your 12 year old or your 10 year old?

Kendra Adachi 18:33

10

Kaytee Cobb 18:34

Yeah, that that's like the sweet spot for that book. Because there's still that tender age.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 18:41

Jackson, you know, loved that too. And he said, "Mom, this is a book that gave me all of my feelings. Oh, it gave me all of my feelings." So somehow she finds a way to really open up that that part of kids in that age or even that part of us even though we're the ages where we are now. There is a second book, which Jackson really loved. What's it called Kaytee?

Kaytee Cobb 19:04

The One and Only Bob it and it is a sequel, so it takes place after the events. Yes. And Bob is the dog. He's the Chihuahua. And in the movie version, which is now on Disney plus Danny DeVito voices Bob. The audiobook of The One and Only Bob is narrated by Danny DeVito. So it's pretty fantastic to have him being a chihuahua in your head.

Kendra Adachi 19:27

I did not know that there was a show. I didn't know that.

Kaytee Cobb 19:31

Oh, my Bryan Cranston is in it. He's Mac which is perfect. Right? Can you see that?

Kendra Adachi 19:36

That is so good. I'm so excited because my my kids are like, they are categorically against movies. Like they don't like movies. And it's because my 10 year old said to me, this was years ago. This is when he was probably six or seven. And he said, "Mom, there's just too much escalating conflict."

Meredith Monday Schwartz 19:58

Oh, what...? Oh, there you go. All right,

Kendra Adachi 20:02

You're not wrong. But like you can't. I mean, of course there is because in a movie, you need to be escalating. Exactly. So it is such it is like pulling teeth to get my kids to watch a movie, which is the funniest problem to have. I'm like you guys do how many kids beg their parents to watch them? I'm begging you. Like, let's watch a movie. So I might be able to get him to watch this because he loves the story. I'm excited about that.

Kaytee Cobb 20:26

Yeah, so fun. Okay, Meredith, what is your second read this week?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 20:31

I'm so excited to bring this book to the podcast, because I feel like it has not gotten enough, play anywhere. And it is the perfect summer book. This is The Kaiju Preservation Society by John Scalzi. And I loved this book. Alright, here's the setup. As we start our story, it's March of 2020. And of course, we all know COVID-19 is sweeping fast through New York City, our lead character is Jamie Gray, and he is stuck in a very dead end job as a driver for a food delivery app. Until he makes a delivery one day to an old acquaintance. This guy's name is Tom, who works at what Tom calls an "animal rights organization". I'm gonna use air quotes around that. Tom's team turns out needs a last minute sort of grunt to do like heavy lifting kind of chores on their next field visit. And Jamie, who really doesn't care at this point, he just doesn't want to keep doing food delivery as COVID hits, immediately signs on. What Tom doesn't tell Jamie is that the animals that his team cares for are not here on earth, not our Earth, at least. In an alternate dimension, massive dinosaur like creatures called kaiju roam, a very warm, human free world. They're the universe's largest and most dangerous animals, and they are in trouble.

Because of course, not just the Kaiju Preservation Society has figured out how to travel back and forth from this alternate world to ours, others have to, and their greed and their lack of wisdom could cause millions to die both here on Earth and threaten the kaiju in their world. You guys, this book is pure summer blockbuster fun. It's sci fi, which of course, I am trying to bring more to the show because you guys love it. But it doesn't feel like traditional sci fi, there is some science in it. But it's all wrapped up in this big hearted good natured story. So you almost hardly notice the science. I felt like I was a puppy and they wrapped all the science in bacon, and I just gobbled it up. And this bacon of the story, this story reminded me all the way through of watching Jurassic Park in the movie theater for the first time. Now I'm not talking about the book. I'm talking about back in 1994, I'm dating myself, I realized when we all went to see Jurassic Park for the first time, and those sweeping views when the dinosaurs came into view for the first time, that feeling of like, oh my gosh, that's what this book felt like. And you get that feeling here. You're seeing this world through the eyes of first time visitors. And that is so much fun. John Scalzi does a great job of putting you into their seats. Also, those first time employees of the Kaiju Preservation Society are a group of people that I would love to hang out with, which is another reason why this book is so much fun. They're a wonderful group. There's no douchey bros in the bunch. There's a ton of representation of all kinds, and I was delighted to be with them throughout their entire adventure. There were countless times that I threw my head back and laughter as they bantered with each other. Again, we've got great dialogue here. These are smart, good people having the time of their lives. And it was wonderful to get to enjoy this with them. So in this book, you will learn what a Kaiju is, and why though they could kill you, you will probably love them. You may decide you never want to take a helicopter tour. And you will also try to decide if you would take such an exciting job even if it meant you could possibly get your arm torn off. And you'll be surprised how hard that decision will be. This book is not a long book. And that's a good thing because so much happens and there's so many white knuckle moments that you couldn't sustain that pace for very long. It's kind of like that now rare 90 minute movie that just feels perfect for what it is. This is as I said, a great summer book for the pool or hot tip pro parenting tip buddy read this with your teenager. You will get so much street cred with them because you recommended it. And also this is another book that needs a movie made now and I hope that happens because after reading this book and the note at the end John Scalzi the author seems like a guy I would love to hang out with. So I want all the success for him possible. This is the Kaiju Preservation Society by John Scalzi.

Kaytee Cobb 25:11

That is amazing. As we know from Kendra's book, you can handle twice as much sci fi when you wrap it in bacon because the rules stop applying. So I like that.

Kendra Adachi 25:20

Exactly. How do you spell kaiju?

Meredith Monday Schwartz 25:23

K - A - I - J - U

Kendra Adachi 25:29

I guessed correctly. I feel really proud about my my kaiju abilities.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 25:35

Yes. I didn't know as soon as I said that word, my husband, because he watches a lot of Godzilla movies immediately was like, Oh, you mean like in Godzilla? The animals and the way that they're described in this book are just so all the Jurassic Park vibes in this book, but it's not it, but it's not derivative in any way. It's completely its own thing.

Kaytee Cobb 25:57

That's fun. It sounds excellent. And I do remember seeing the cover because one of our bookish friends talks about this right and it has like a name badge kind of cover. Yes. Yeah. I can already like picture myself falling into this one. So I think I might have to save it for a weekend when I can just read the whole thing at once. Yes, excellent. Okay, I did bring a little bit of nonfiction for us today. I want to talk about I Take My Coffee Black by Tyler Merritt. Have you read the Kendra?

Kendra Adachi 26:23

No, I haven't. I have not read that. I know of him and I know that he wrote that book, but I have not actually read the book.

Kaytee Cobb 26:28

Perfect. So the first part of my notes it just says, Holy freaking Jesus. I love this book. Five star book alert. This memoir slash comedy slash coming of age slash love story to his mom... love letter to his mom not love story with his mom. That's weird, had me vacillating between laughter and tears from one moment to the next. Tyler Merritt, of course, is the new beau of Jen Hatmaker who it feels like everybody should know at this point. Like if you don't know Jen Hatmaker as soon as you're done with this episode, go find Jen Hatmaker because your your life is sad. Jen Hatmaker has multiple books of her own and has been pushing the envelope in Christian circles for years now. When she announced a new relationship on Insta, as someone I had been following for years and reading for even longer, I knew I had to get to know this guy, because my approval means nothing. But seriously, I had to get my approval. Right. Like, that's how it works. Yes, that's what social media is for. We all felt very protective. Exactly. We were like "Jan, Hold on. Wait, let us see". Okay. The good news is that he's easy to get to know through his book that released in September of 2021. Tyler is the creator of the viral video "before you call the cops," which he first released in 2018. And it went viral then with about 20 million views. But it blew up a second time after the death of George Floyd two years ago, especially after Jimmy Kimmel called him up and asked him to be on the show. But that's not Tyler's only claim to fame. He's also been a musician for decades, and is the lead singer of the band Broken Frame. In this book, Tyler gives us true memoir, starting from his formative young years. He introduces us to his mom, who is amazing, makes fun of his younger self, takes us to church camp, and yes, that does mean this book has a bit of a Christian perspective on it. But it also includes plenty of F bombs sprinkled in liberally for flavor. I would be remiss if I didn't mention the masterpiece that is the audio book here. It's read by Tyler, of course but the way you're invited in with his producer chiming in, like he gets choked up, and his producer will be like, "Tyler, do you need to take five? Like maybe we'll come back to this". And so you feel like you're in the booth. You're part of this conversation. His mom makes an appearance. His best friend's read their own sections of the book. And music is included throughout and makes it feel a lot more like the audiobook of As You Wish by Cary Elwes.

Kendra Adachi 28:49

I'm reading that right now.

Kaytee Cobb 28:51

Oh my gosh, isn't that the best book? Okay, sorry. That's one of my very favorite audio productions of all time. I love that book. And this one felt like that, like you're in the room where it's happening right? By the end of this book you feel not only like Tyler has invited you in, but also like you've become friends. This is a book that might make any number of readers feel uncomfortable for any number of reasons. But it's got five star potential for everyone. And it was a huge hit for me. And the other readers that I've heard from so far. I do foresee this showing up on my favorite nonfiction of the year list and rightfully so. It is amazing. It's I Take My Coffee Black by Tyler Merritt.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 29:32

Oh, I'm so glad that that was so good. I really want to read that one because he is fascinating. I've started following him too for the same reasons. And just what a fun I mean, he's, he's amazing what a find amazing.

Kaytee Cobb 29:46

And I already bought a copy of the book too so I could like have it and Tyler and I can like sit together and chat with each other right because I listened to the video but I had to have him in my house also. So those were our six current reads which we're at only five this week for the first time ever, which means now it's time to get into our deep dive where we will lazy genius a reading life, which I'm so excited about.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 30:09

I cannot wait. Because the lazy genius principles, I love them because you can apply them to anything. So the idea now of having Kyndra here to help us apply them to our reading just is like the apex of my excitement.

Kaytee Cobb 30:24

Yes, exactly. I don't know about you, Meredith. But I did go get out both of my lazy genius books last night, and I sat down and I looked through principals and I was brainstorming for myself, trying to guess what I think Kendra may talk about today. So I'm basically I'm gonna play a game with myself. So Kendra, we're gonna give you the floor. But I want to see how much overlap we have from what I wrote what you talk about the level I did with Jackson's fifth grade teacher.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 30:50

You're testing your knowledge, right? And I love it.

Kendra Adachi 30:52

I love it. Well, there are just a little bit of lazy genius background probably. So for anybody who's like, what is what is The Lazy Genius? What does that even mean? Lazy genius is someone who is a genius about the things that matter and lazy about the things that don't. Now, obviously, for people who are listening to this reading matters. And so you want to be a genius about reading. However, I do think

that there are so many different offshoots of reading, there are different aspects of your reading life that you might not care about as much. Yeah, that you can let go of. And I think that's really great. Like, for me, tracking and like journaling about what I read is less important than ranking them. I, I would rather when I finish a book, spend the 60 seconds, putting it in my I use Trello for this, putting it in my Trello app, and I have two lists on Trello of the books that I read in order, and then I copy that card, and I slide it over to the next list of books read by favorite, and I literally just go up the list and like no, I liked it more than that one, I liked it more than that one, I liked it. And I go all the way up. And I love seeing my reading life kind of captured in that way. And I don't necessarily always write those things down. So we can be a genius about certain aspects of our reading life and lazy about other aspects. And that does not mean that your reading life is not as robust or sophisticated or valuable compared to anyone else we all get to decide. So that is the first thing I will say,

Kaytee Cobb 32:20

Okay, do you do that every year? Or do you have like a lifetime ranking? Because that would be amazing.

Kendra Adachi 32:26

Maybe now..., no, it's every year but now I want a lifetime ranking! Well, I have all the lists from all the years. So I kind of like, okay, I'm writing that down. While I'm doing that when we get off this call lifetime book ranking. I can't wait. But I think there is something for me, I'm a pretty linear person. And I also am not very precious about how accurate those lines are. So for example, there are times where I will be I will be putting a new title in my you know, your favorites. And I'll see one that is higher than I feel like it is in that moment. And I'm like, Oh, I think I really felt good about that when I finished. But it's been a month, and I think I'm gonna put that lower like and I don't, it doesn't really bother me. It's like, let's just move it. It's fine. So anyway, lifetime list is happening. I'm so excited. I'll keep you posted.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 33:17

Okay, good. We want to see it.

Kaytee Cobb 33:19

A whole video like just scrolling.

Kendra Adachi 33:21

so good. So good. So so that's the broad idea of what it means to be a lazy genius. Now there are my first book is called The Lazy Genius Way and it explains 13 principles that you can apply to anything, any situation, any season of life, like they're broad enough that they're versatile and personal. But they're specific enough that they actually help. So there are all the principles you could use in your reading life. But I will share a couple of specific ones that I think could be really, really great. I personally use the principle "set house rules". Setting house rules is it's not so much about like, I always think about Marie Barone on Everybody Loves Raymond, the mother in law where her couch is covered in plastic, and you can't eat in there. And you know, like all these different rules for a lazy genius. A house rule is not about protection of something, it is about connection with something. So you are creating kind of like these boundaries, or these points in your routine or whatever it is that are preserving something that matters to you right? Now I care tremendously about reading and one of the

biggest things I care about honestly, is momentum. Because if I lose momentum, then I stop reading. And I don't want to ever stop reading. So my goal, what matters to me about my reading, is to keep it going. I have a house rule that I must start when I finish a book. I have to start the next one in 24 hours. Like I have to. That's my rule. And that is not like Get it together Kendra because you need to read before, it's like, no guess what? Momentum matters to you. And you know that if you don't start within a day, the next one, you're probably going to lose that momentum. So let's keep that going that matters. So that is one principle that one could use.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 35:12

So the first thing that you're doing here is you are prioritizing, you're naming what matters, right naming what matters. And this and this is the thing that I find so usable about the lazy genius way, in any part of your life that you... we're even using it in my day job at Here Comes the Guide, naming what matters. And so for me, in my reading, what matters is I want to be I never want to be bored, I want to be interested. So what that looks like for me is I'm going to set down a book, if it's getting in the way of that because it's blocking my momentum. So that's naming what matters to me. And so I think for every one of our listeners, really figuring out we talked about this in a lot of different ways. But naming what matters in your reading, is the first step to opening up a really, really fruitful reading life, and that what matters is going to be absolutely different for every person.

Kendra Adachi 36:07

For every single person. One thing that and you can ask that question all the time, you can say what matters to me about this. And you can ask it about something incredibly, incredibly small. You could ask the question like What matters to me about my reading, but it could be what matters to me about my morning reading, what matters to be about the chair that I sit in, when I read what matters about the light in the room, or the smells in the room when I read like it could be very, very tiny, right? But one thing you're saying that makes me think one thing that I have named recently, and this can change because our seasons of life change or seasons of reading change. That's another Lazy Genius principle is to live in your season. The season that I'm personally in right now and what matters to me about my reading is I want to love it and be supremely entertained. So which is a version of what you just said. But guess what, it doesn't matter to me right now about reading fiction, nonfiction, but fiction, I don't want to learn anything. I just right now, I don't care. Like I do care. But I care about it in a nonfiction realm, not in a fiction realm. And I also know that I don't love historical fiction. Like I just don't. It's just not my, that is not my genre. And so I have a, decide once that's another lazy genius principle, make one decision about one thing one time and then let it ride. Keep making it until it doesn't work for you anymore. And I decided once about a year and a half ago if it's a historical fiction novel, I'm just not going to read it. I have too many other things on my shelf literally on my shelf. I mean, I think I have 200 books. I'm a book collector, because I like to have my choices when it's time. Yeah. And so I'm not going to have too many other things to choose. I'm not going to choose historical fiction because I don't love it. I don't love it. I want dystopian patriarchies coming down. I want snarky love stories. I want circuses, I want magic, like those are the things that I want. I don't I don't want to read another world war two story. Now, that does not mean that those are not valuable, and that those are not valuable to a lot of different readers or that they're good well written incredibly impactful books. Right. It's okay that I don't choose them. Right. So I have decided once Anne Bogel had a reading guide, or summer reading

guide come out recently, and I just skipped the whole historical fiction section. Like I'm not gonna read any of these. I'm not even gonna think about it. Right. And that saves me so much energy.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 38:19

Absolutely. If we each name what matters to us in the season that we're living in right now. It can just so much of what makes our reading fraught weak, it can just fall away.

Kendra Adachi 38:28

Yes, definitely. Really does. You also mentioned the seven P's, which I've never applied to reading before. So that no I love. I'm so excited. I'm so excited about it. So the seven Ps is something I just made up. Because that's what writers do is they make stuff up but in my most recent book, The Lazy Genius Kitchen, which is not a cookbook, it is a kitchen guidebook. It is y'all and it's become the hardest book to explain. Because it don't exist. It doesn't exist. Like there's nothing

Kendra Adachi 38:36

there's, in some stores they are, in some they are putting it in self help. And I'm like, Oh, interesting. Okay, I guess like it's, it's just a whole thing, even though Yeah, even the bookstores don't know where to put it. So one of the steps in lazy geniusing anything, it starts with prioritizing and naming what matters. The second step is to a centralized and get rid of what's in the way what is keeping you from what matters, right? With reading, it could be too many books, it could be too few. It could be that you'd like to hold the book in your hand and you have too many things on your Kindle. It could be when you read like all kinds of things, right? So number two is essentialize.

Kaytee Cobb 38:59

are they shelving it with cookbooks?

Kaytee Cobb 39:19

children.

Kendra Adachi 39:19

Get rid of... tessentialize your children.

Kendra Adachi 39:39

Essentialize your children. Step three is to organize to put everything in its place. And that's physically mentally, all the things like go ahead and put things in their place. What matters now put it in their place. And then step four, which is what we're going to park in right now is to personalize, because we want to feel like ourselves with what we're doing. We don't want to fit into someone else's box. We're not robots, we want our choices to be personal to who we are. That is a really basic thing I'm saying, and how many of us put our personal preferences on the chopping block, those are the first to go. Yeah, and those should not be the first to go. These are essential for us living lives are like, wholehearted, meaningful lives. So when it comes to reading the seven P's, I'm going to adjust one of them because the seven Ps that are in the Lazy Genius Kitchen are, these are things to consider, and making things personal for you, your personality, obviously, the people in your life, the people that you interact with around this particular thing, your priorities, so what matters. One of them is proficiency and I'm going to

change that in reading to preferences, because I think there are a lot of like, we're all alike. You know, reading proficiency is likely not as much of a hang up as it might be in the kitchen. Right? There's a big spectrum in the kitchen of proficiency. But there are a lot of very specific reading preferences. So I'm going to shift that word in this conversation a little bit. Okay. Process. How do you like to go through the process of reading, choosing, tracking, storing, enjoying all those things of your books? Pleasure? What gives you pleasure in this, like, don't just do it, because you're doing it. Like what gives you specifically pleasure about reading? And then peace. What about your reading offers a sense of calm? I think for a lot of us, that's one of the reasons that we do read is because it brings us like a lot of inner joy, and potentially peace, like when we need to escape we go to reading, when we want to feel like ourselves, we go to reading when we just want to have some enjoyment we go to reading and there is something about our actual like brain chemistry and our emotions that experience a lot of settling and peace when we read. But the particulars of what create that are different for every single person. So those are the seven Ps that are in the Lazy Genius Kitchen that we can apply to reading right now. Are there any because Kaytee, because you're trying to win fifth grade, Like are there any things that you from that list of seven Ps that you're like, "Oh, this one stood out to me for my own reading life?"

Kaytee Cobb 42:10

Well, first, I wasn't gonna say that I was trying to stay within the guidelines. So I did focus on proficiency. And I was like, what would that mean for a reader. And to me, what jumped out would be to go to your library, and make sure that you are fully equipped there, that you've talked to your librarian, that you know what resources are available to you, like librarians are there to help you make sure you're proficient in your library usage, because that could bring a lot of joy, right. Or maybe you're a second language learner, and you like to read on Kindle, because you can tap and learn a definition of a word. And it'll save it in your like learned words section, or whatever they do on Kindle. So cool. And that's like, these little things that aren't like something you teach in school, like I'm, you know, homeschooling all these kids, and I never teach them, like, here's how you, but it's still like a proficiency situation for a reader that I think is really useful.

Kendra Adachi 43:00

I love that. I love that so much.

Kaytee Cobb 43:03

And then the other thing that I was very excited about was the pleasure aspect. Of course, which Meredith and I talked about a lot of time like, what does what does a great reading nook look like for you? Do you want to be inside or outside? Do you need silence? Do you need to music, an ASMR room cozy blanket a warm beverage or a cold one, like all these different decisions that really add to the feel of reading around you. So pleasure for me was a big part of it. Because reading is a pleasure. Like, just by itself.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 43:29

It can be but I think to Kendra's point, I think we can do a lot of things to remove the pleasure or to thwart it. Now, the P where I got not stuck, but where I got really kind of interested in my thought exercise around it was the P of people. Because this is where I think we can kind of go wrong in creating the reading life that is perfectly personalized for us. Because I when I thought about people in

this instance, I was thinking a lot of us have our personality stolen, where we allow our personalities to be stolen, because we're so focused on the people that we follow, whether it's Bookstagram, booktubers, podcasters. Any of the even critics or you know, Book Awards, any of the people who are kind of the tastemakers in the book world, I feel like we can look at either what they're reading or the way that they read and feel like that's how our reading life needs to look. And I feel like if we don't necessarily I mean you can make a personal choice everyone can make a personal choice. Do you need to unfollow people? Do you need to just mentally turn down the volume and say, You know what they can read like that. But for me, it's not a priority for me to read historical fiction or memoir, whatever it is for you. Can you just really lean into what is your what is going to create the best reading life for you and let the other Noise go just because each person's reading life is gonna look so different. So I got, I got really interested in that P of people.

Kendra Adachi 45:08

I love the nuance of that. And I also, this is why I love the principles. It's why I love the seven P's. It's like, it gives us an arrow, you know, like, points us in a direction, but then we can think about it specifically for what matters to us. Like, for me, people, that is such an incredible point narrative that I wouldn't have thought about. For me when I think about how people relate to my reading, like, is it necessary for me and my enjoyment, my A to Z enjoyment of a reading experience to tell someone about it? Or to talk to someone about it? Or is it okay that it just stays with me, you know, like, or even thinking about reading recommendations, like I stopped taking reading recommendations from certain certain people, because I know that we don't read the same thing. We don't like the same things. Whereas my sister, if my sister tells me to read something, I'm going to read it because she knows what I'm going to be assessed with. She's accurate every dang time. So I listened to her right. It's not that we're like, this person is terrible at reading recommendations. It's like, No, you can name how people are going to inform your reading experience, whether through recommendations or sharing or whatever it is, like you get to choose just like we all get to choose. Like, I know that there are people. So I share book reviews on my newsletter every month, which I love.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 46:30

I just have to say if you are not subscribed to her newsletter, we are going to put the link in our show notes and unique because it is the most useful newsletter that I get.

Kendra Adachi 46:40

Oh, that's incredibly kind. Thank you. I only write it once a month because it's like Meredith. Yeah. But it's it's a lot of fun. But one of my favorite things to share are book reviews. And and in that I share everything. But I one thing that I've noticed recently, it is very rare, especially in the last few months, I have not shared a book that I've read that I didn't like pretty much love. Because I have started to nail what I'm going to love. Like it's been a long time since I have read a book I didn't like and frankly, I just stopped books and I'm like, no, no, I don't have time for this. I'm gonna stop. I have become like a like a DNF evangelist, like please just stop reading books like it's fine. Because I didn't used to be that way. But back to kind of the point like, I know that in my newsletter, there are going to be readers who it's like Kendra has too many magic things. Kendra's too. Like they're just it's just, that's just not for me. There's too much dystopian stuff. There's too like dark fairy tales. Like I love a dark fairy tale.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 47:43

So do I

Kendra Adachi 47:44

With my whole heart.

Kendra Adachi 47:45

So even just trying to communicate like, I'm going to share these with you, I'm going to share these reviews with you. But that doesn't mean you have to read them. Like that's the case of of all of it. Like I think we just with every part of our lives, we get into the perpetual motion of it all of making meals, of planning our time of reading our books, of doing our jobs, of interacting with different people in our lives. And because we sort of get into this, it's just like, alright, it's like a hamster wheel. Here we go, here we go. And life is actually not that, like when we focus, like even just a tiny bit in small, small ways. Not even every day, just as much as often as we remember to when we focus in the small ways and bring intention and meaning to what we're doing. It is not a it's the same action, but it's no longer a hamster wheel. Because we are paying attention to things that might feel silly, like this pillow that's on my reading chair is not very comfortable. I'm gonna get a new one, or I don't like reading here, because I remember actually, I remember my my dear friend who was also an author and a podcaster Emily P. Freeman, she shared on Instagram pretty recently that when the time change happened, she moved her favorite chair to a different room that had better light in the morning. Right? Because the morning light changed. Yeah, you know, it's like those small things feel like, well, that's crazy. No, it's not like those small, intentional meaningful choices are the things that make things like reading sparkle, that make them sparkle. So if you can think about how you can personalize your experience, it's just going to make it alive.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 49:26

Absolutely. And so one thing I want to make sure that we do, we're going to put those seven P's, including your adjustment of proficiency to preferences into our show notes. And Kaytee, I think you and I should take a run at doing the seven piece for ourselves in just a really short, a really short way kind of a few words about for each of those seven P's, what is something that we can sort of adjust about our reading lives that will make it even better and then we'll put those on social media and have you

Kaytee Cobb 49:59

a story template, right yeah, for other people to share.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 50:02

Yeah, right. So that to the idea so that you guys can also, I really want, I know I'm giving you homework and we're all really busy, but...

Kaytee Cobb 50:09

Everybody loves homework Meredith

Meredith Monday Schwartz 50:11

Well type ones love homework.

Kaytee Cobb 50:13

Sevens do it. They just add more gifs.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 50:15

No sevens don't do homework sevens, not sevens not gonna do this come on sevens and eights, seven eights nines, they hate me right now. So all my type ones, I'm going to give you a little bit of homework. Take five minutes, run through this, put it put it up on social media, or don't just keep it for yourself. The result I'm looking for here is not that you're going to share it on social media, it's that you're going to really, really use these lazy genius principles to make your reading life better, because I think we really, I think we really can do that. And it is so what a gift to talk to Kendra about this specifically.

Kendra Adachi 50:51

I love it. You guys. I think that's such a great idea. Way to have like a spontaneous homework. I'm here for it.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 50:56

I love spontaneous homework.

Kaytee Cobb 50:58

Okay, that that was amazing. I loved everything about that entire conversation. I think that was one of our best deep dives ever because I love the idea of like, first of all, I want to Lazy genius everything in my life. But absolutely all of us want that like dialed in reading life, and how do we ask those questions to get to the point where it's working exactly or us. I'm so excited for what you all come back to us with and what kind of homework you've done in this area. I think it'll be great. Which means now it's time to press books into your hands. Kendra, what did you bring to press this week?

Kendra Adachi 51:31

I should have asked permission about this before can one press an audiobook? Is that allowed in book presses? Okay, good. Okay. Because I am usually not a book presser because I'm very much like no, you do you. You do you. It's fine. But this one, I feel like I can't imagine many humans that would not deeply, deeply enjoy this book and it is the audio version of Nothing to see here by Kevin Wilson read by Marin Ireland. I've listened to this. I'm pressing so hard the audiobook of this is an absolutely magical experience. Marin Ireland is fabulous. So the idea of this book, is there is a woman who is sort of, you know, a little down on her luck. She's like a grown up but trying to figure out what to be when she grows up, you know, kind of vibe, and she gets a job offer from an old high school friend to nanny, these kids. Well, turns out the kids sometimes spontaneously catch on fire.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 52:31

As one does, right.

Kendra Adachi 52:33

And it is so human, and poignant and hilarious. Like, you know, there have been several mentions of like snappy dialogue and snarky. The dialogue in this is so good. And her performance because Marin Ireland is an actress, which I think, to a point all audiobook narrators are right. Yeah. It is just profoundly entertaining. It is so entertaining. And the story itself, while of course, you have to suspend a little bit of belief because two children spontaneously catch on fire, there is such a human through line in these characters. The characters are believable. You love them so much. You are rooting for them. There are so many things that you can see yourself in. That is one of my favorite things about really deeply specific plots and premises. The weirder it is, I think, the easier it is to find ourselves. Because it's so deeply specific. Yeah, so this is a book that is funny. It is there's not a lot of description, but it's still kind of loosely literary because of how well it's written in my personal opinion. I just think it's written so well. So if you can press an audiobook it is Nothing to See Here by Kevin Wilson.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 53:44

I have meant to read this book, but I hadn't caught on to how great the audio is. And so I just actually downloaded it on audio because also it fits that sweet spot of being just under seven hours and I'm obsessed with audiobooks that are going to be kind of right in that sense say that I won't listen to a long one. But that's kind of my sweet spot for the way I in this season of my life listen to audiobooks so downloaded that is getting that is getting consumed that way. Perfect.

Kendra Adachi 54:12

I can't wait to hear what you think of it. Yes.

Kaytee Cobb 54:15

Love it. Okay, well, I am gonna go next, even though we were going in a different order earlier, and I'm going to go ahead and press For the Love by Jen Hatmaker because of my deep and abiding love for Jen, and then I'm like getting my notes ready today and I realized there's no Jen Hatmaker on the press list yet. And that feels very wrong to me. Yes. So the tippy top option of the many books I've read of hers is For the Love, which is her release from 2015. I read it in December of that year, and in my Goodreads review proclaimed my very favorite book of the year at the time. Although I do think in 2015 I read like 30 books, which is perfectly good number. It's a different thing than my favorite book of 2020 let's say. So much like Tyler's book that I mentioned earlier, this one weaves humor and poignant life observations together in a wonderful way. Jen is fabulous and approachable as a writer. She's willing to get vulnerable and allow others in. This one is an essay collection and was published by a Christian publisher. So again, we have those overtones, but Jen is willing to push the envelope with regards to the ways that the church has hurt so many of its most vulnerable members. And I think that's such a refreshing voice to have on the pages. I love it so much. The way that her southern hospitality seeps through the pages here, and the way that she makes the entire thing feel so personable, like you did sit down with her and she just talked to you for seven hours. I adore it. I hope if you are one of those few people that has not heard of Jen Hatmaker before that you not only go find her, but that you pick up this book, if it's even remotely up your alley. It's For the Love by Jen Hatmaker.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 55:54

Oh, I cosign on that completely. I love that book.

Kaytee Cobb 55:58

Yes. All right. Meredith, wrap us up.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 56:01

So for my press, we're going to deal with the elephant in the room, right, which I know everyone's wondering, why have these people had this amazing author, and spent an entire hour talking to her and not really gotten into the book that she just came out with? Well, that's because it is the second time in the history of the show that I am taking a book and we are going straight past it using it as a current read it is going straight to the press list. The only other book that has done that is her first book, *The Lazy Genius Way*. I am gonna press yes, yes. I am pressing the *Lazy Genius Kitchen* by Kendra Adachi, our wonderful guest. So you guys know, as I said, I pressed *The Lazy Genius Way*. Kendra was not here. Kendra did not know who we were. Me pressing this today has nothing to do with her being here. Because as I said earlier off mi, if I thought the book was only okay, very frankly, I would be perfectly fine with being like, Oh, here's the mention of her book. This book deserves to be pressed so Kendra, we're going to pretend like you're not here, because this is going to embarrass you. I'm about to get all up in your business. All right. Here's the setup. Here's first of all, listen up. In the lazy genius kitchen, Kendra applies as we've said, all of her lazy genius way principles to what to many of us is the hardest room in our house because it is the room that takes so much of our time and effort and that is our kitchen. We all have one. We all have to deal with it. And this book gives us the ability to deal with this element of our life in a way that finally helps us take control of it. So she is going to help you as we talked about name what matters in the kitchen. She is going to help you feed everyone in your life, whether it's just you or your big family that needs to be fed. And the part that I love the most is she's going to help you apply her system to the kitchen. To say that I loved this book would be one of the worst understatements that we've ever had on the podcast. From the very first page where Kendra so beautifully sets the tone for exactly what you're going to find in this book. She says this, "If you try to count the number of meals that you will likely make over the course of your lifetime, you might weep. But since weeping will decidedly kill the fun vibe we're going for here, let's hurry along". And that is the thing about Kendra's books, they mix tone, which makes you feel exactly as if your best friend is writing a book directly and personally for you with amazing content that makes you feel like you can do what she's suggesting that you do, and that you'll be much better for it. And then you put all of that into this beautiful format that she uses in her books. I love to do her books in print, because they are a joy for the eye in addition to being a joy for the brain. Whoever is designing Kendra's books, and remember, I'm pretending like she's not sitting here listening to me talk about this, is doing an amazing job because you can easily grok exactly what each chapter is going to help you do visually, the graphics are clear, and they're straightforward, but they also managed to be pretty. And I read enough of this kind of book to know that that is not an easy needle to thread. So to get more specific about what you're going to find in this book, which is hard to kind of figure out how to shelve in a bookstore, in the first several chapters of the book, Kendra delights my type one soul by going through several different elements of your kitchen life, whether it's meal prep, or the actual space of the kitchen, or how you're going to decide what you're going to eat. And she takes you through five steps of the lazy genius way in order to deal with those big kitchen challenges. And then in roughly the last third of the book, she has about 100 ish pages of some of the most useful kitchen information that I have ever run across. She talks about everything from how to never run out of food at a party, which is, by the way, a reason I don't have parties. I am panicked about that exact thing. She talks about how to feed a lot of people. And she in a

single page talks about how to host Thanksgiving. Y'all in one page she allayed every fear that this almost 50 year old woman has about solo hosting Thanksgiving. And those are just a few examples of what you're going to find in this

Kaytee Cobb 1:00:37

The liquid index Meredith Yeah, the liquid index Yes. What, what? There is the lazy genius podcast episode about the liquid index, if anybody's very interested in that part, specifically,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 1:00:49

So many good things. I guarantee you no matter what season of life you are in right now, you can find something that will help you substantively in this book. So for that reason, I highly recommend and I want to press The Lazy Genius Kitchen by Kendra Adichi. And I'm going to add one more thing. I want to make sure that everyone knows to go watch The Lazy Genius Kitchen YouTube series. Because it is so good and includes guests that we all know like Aaron Moon and Annie F downs. I honestly think it is better than that big name organization show that's currently on Netflix that I cannot watch. This show is so good. And every single day, I am sending energy into the universe that this gets picked up by the Magnolia network because we need this as a show every week. I'm a huge fan. Because Kendra brings so much usefulness to the world.

Kendra Adachi 1:01:48

I was gonna say can we pretend I'm here now? That was so incredibly kind, like so kind. And I'm so glad that you because the things that you described, even down to the design of the book, there is so much intention, and you're feeling those things. So much time and effort goes into making sure, I did not design the book but I was a big time diva on what that design should be. Absolutely so many notes, so many notes because I was like, "No, there's not enough whitespace This is too ugly. This is too cute. This is like all the things". So the fact that it is it is finally in people's hands and readers like you, Meredith are feeling that way about the book, it's like, it's so encouraging and affirming and it makes me excited to do the work and makes me like kind of trust even more my gut on what I want to make and what I want to offer people and how I want to help them. Because it's resonance, like it's very, it's just very encouraging. So thank you,

Meredith Monday Schwartz 1:02:41

you sister, you need to trust your gut, because you are bringing so much good to the world. We need all of it that you can bring to us.

Kendra Adachi 1:02:50

Thank you. Thank you. I appreciate that. And I loved making that video show you guys. It's like a real show. They're like 20 minute episodes. It's so it that was the most creative fun that I've ever had my job was making that show.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 1:03:05

Oh fun. Oh good. All of the things that you bring to all the work that you do come through on that show. I'm totally embarrassed to admit I was sick for like three weeks, I watched all of the episodes twice, which is just oh, I just I because I never I hardly watch TV and I never rewatch TV. But anyway, that is

my pitch. I'm obviously absolutely smitten with all of this. But we are so grateful Kendra to have had you today and to bring what you do to our Currently Reading listeners and we will put all of your links to all the places that you can be found in our show notes for sure because we want people to find you.

Kendra Adachi 1:03:42

That's very kind. This has been so fun y'all. Thank you for thank you for having me and being so genuine and lovely and giving me an excuse to talk about books which I don't get to do very much.

Kaytee Cobb 1:03:52

You have a standing invite Kendra, if you need an outlet at some point, like it's just really want to talk about books. You just let us know we'll slide you in.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 1:04:03

Alright, that is it for this week. As a reminder, here's where you can connect with us. You can find me I'm Meredith at @Meredith.reads on Instagram.

Kaytee Cobb 1:04:11

And you can find me Kaytee at @notesonbookmarks on Instagram. Kendra, where would you like everybody to find you?

Kendra Adachi 1:04:17

You can find me at the, you Google the lazy genius and you'll find all the things but I'm on Instagram at @thelazygenius and everything else is at the lazygeniuscollective.com

Meredith Monday Schwartz 1:04:26

full show notes with the title of every book we mentioned in the episode and timestamps so you can zoom right to where we talked about it can be found on our website at currentlyreadingpodcast.com.

Kaytee Cobb 1:04:37

You can also follow the show at @currentlyreadingpodcast on Instagram or email us at currentlyreadingpodcast@gmail.com

Meredith Monday Schwartz 1:04:43

And if you love hearing us talk about books, there's a lot more where that came from. You can join us as a bookish friend, which means being a Patreon subscriber for just \$5 a month. You can also rate and review us on Apple podcasts and shout us out on social media. All of those things help us to find our perfect audience.

Kaytee Cobb 1:05:01

Bookish friends are the best friends. Thank you all so much for helping us grow and get closer to our goals.

Meredith Monday Schwartz 1:05:06

Alright, until next week, me your coffee be hot

Kaytee Cobb 1:05:10

and your book be unputdownable

Meredith Monday Schwartz 1:05:12

happy reading.

Kendra Adachi 1:05:13

Happy reading.

Kaytee Cobb 1:05:14

Happy reading