If All Arkansas Read the Same Book

Based on one of America’s most notorious real-life scandals—in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country—Before We Were Yours is a riveting, wrenching, and ultimately uplifting tale, reminding us how, even though the paths we take can lead to many places, the heart never forgets where we belong.

“[A] fantastic novel . . . Wingate is a compelling storyteller, steeping her narrative with a forward momentum that keeps the reader . . . engaged and curious.”—Publishers Weekly

“Thought-provoking . . . strong . . . Wingate weaves a complex tale about two families, two generations apart, linked by an injustice based on a notorious true-life scandal.”—Library Journal

Lisa Wingate is a former journalist, inspirational speaker, and best-selling author of more than 20 novels. Her work has won or been nominated for many awards, including the Pat Conroy Southern Book Prize, the Oklahoma Book Award, the Utah Library Award, the Carol Award, the Christy Award, and the RT Booklovers Reviewer’s Choice Award. The group Americans for More Civility, a kindness watchdog organization, selected Lisa along with six others as recipients of the National Civics Award, which celebrates public figures who work to promote greater kindness and civility in American life. Booklist summed up her work by saying, “Lisa Wingate is, quite simply, a master storyteller.”

Author Readings & Book Signings

Saturday, June 2, Noon Bentonville Public Library/ Bella Vista Library joint event 405 South Main St. Bentonville, AR

Saturday, June 2, 3 pm Springdale Public Library 405 S. Pleasant St. Springdale, AR

Sunday, June 3, 2 pm Garland County Library 1427 Malvern Avenue Hot Springs, AR

Monday, June 4, 4 pm Baxter County Library 300 Library Hill Mountain Home, AR

Tuesday, June 5, Noon A Gathering of the Groups St. Mark’s Episcopal Church 1000 N. Mississippi St. Little Rock, AR

Tuesday, June 5, 5:30 pm William F. Laman Public Library, Argenta Branch 420 Main St. North Little Rock, AR

Wednesday, June 6, Noon White County Regional Library 113 E. Pleasure Avenue Searcy, AR

Wednesday, June 6, 4 pm East Central Arkansas Regional Library 410 Merriman Avenue, E. Wynne, AR

This project is made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.