



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## San Diego Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY TO HOST LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:  
LOVE & FORGIVENESS READING AND DISCUSSION GROUP**  
*The First in a Series of Five Thematic Book Discussion Meetings*

**SAN DIEGO** – San Diego Public Library will host a free five-part reading and discussion series called “Let’s Talk About It: Love & Forgiveness”, exploring the themes of love and forgiveness in everyday life through classic and contemporary literature. The library is one of only 50 libraries nationwide receiving a grant to host the program, developed by the American Library Association and the Fetzer Institute’s Campaign for Love and Forgiveness. Local support for the series is provided by KPBS. All events will be held in the Wangenheim Room at the San Diego Central Library, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego.

The library’s series will explore the theme of *Love and Forgiveness in the Light of Death*, its first meeting focusing on *Paula*, by Isabel Allende, on Monday, February 9 at 6:30pm. In this book, Paula is felled by porphyria, a rare blood disease, and, despite endless care by both her mother and her husband, lapses into a coma. Driven by a desperation to communicate with her unconscious daughter, the mother begins writing a letter--detailing her entire history--to present to Paula upon her awakening. Leonora Simonovis, Ph.D. (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), a professor teaching at the University of San Diego, will facilitate the book discussion.

“We are delighted to have been chosen to host this unique series that will allow patrons a chance to discuss the themes of love and forgiveness with fellow community members and with the help of a well-qualified scholar,” said Deborah Barrow, Library Director.

The group will discuss additional books at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the following four

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months, including:

- *Disgrace* by J.M. Coetzee, March 9, 2009, with facilitator Robert Cancel, Ph.D. (African Languages and Literature).
- *Jazz* by Toni Morrison, April 13, 2009, with facilitator Camille Forbes, Ph.D. (History of American Civilization).
- *The Death of Ivan Illych* by Leo Tolstoy, May 11, 2009, with facilitator Steven Cassedy, Ph.D. (Comparative Literature).
- *The Dead*, by James Joyce, June 8, 2009, with facilitator Donald Wesling, Ph.D. (English Literature).

To register, please visit or contact the Central Library’s Literature and Language Section, 619-236-5816. Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library’s Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library’s catalog online at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org)

*The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future*

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