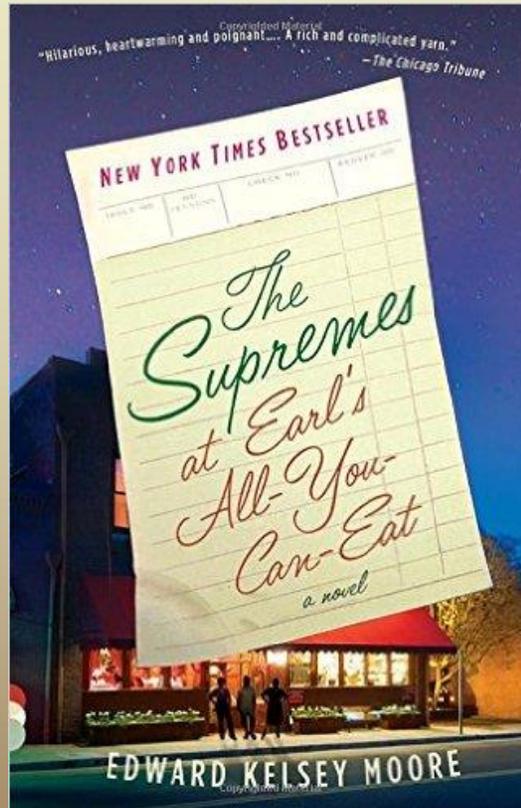


The Supremes At Earl's All-You-Can-Eat

Earl's All-You-Can-Eat in Plainview, Indiana, is home away from home for Odette, Clarice and Barbara Jean. Dubbed "The Supremes" by high school pals in the tumultuous 1960s, they've weathered life's storms and counseled one another for over four decades. However, they're about to face their most challenging year yet. Proud, talented Clarice is struggling to keep up appearances as she deals with her husband's humiliating infidelities; beautiful Barbara Jean is rocked by the tragic reverberations of a youthful love affair; and fearless Odette is about to embark on the most terrifying battle of her life. With wit, style and sublime talent, Edward Kelsey Moore brings together three devoted allies in a heartwarming novel that celebrates female friendship and second chances.



Edward Kelsey Moore is the author of the New York Times bestselling novel *The Supremes at Earl's All-You-Can-Eat*, which has been published in eleven countries and was chosen as a 2013 Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers selection. It was awarded the 2014 First Novelist Award by the Black Caucus of the American Library Association and was also named a 2014 Illinois Reads book by the Illinois Reading Council. Moore's short fiction has appeared in several literary magazines, including *Indiana Review*, *African American Review* and *Inkwell*. His short story "Grandma and the Elusive Fifth Crucifix" was selected as an audience favorite on National Public Radio's *Stories on Stage* series. His second novel, *The Happy Heartache Blues*, will be published in the summer of 2017. A native of Indianapolis, Moore lives in Chicago, where he has enjoyed a long career as a cellist. Moore is a 2016 Emerging Author finalist of the Eugene & Marilyn Glick Indiana Authors Award.



Edward Kelsey Moore

The Eugene
& Marilyn Glick
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Authors

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Useful Links

Additional *The Supremes At Earl's All-You-Can-Eat* reading guide:
<http://bit.ly/2hx81x6>

Edward Kelsey Moore essay on balancing music and writing:
<http://bit.ly/2gEqPpK>

Eugene & Marilyn Glick Indiana Authors Award:
www.indianaauthorsaward.org

The Indiana Authors Award

The Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana Authors Award was established when **The Indianapolis Public Library Foundation** received a generous grant from **The Glick Fund, a fund of Central Indiana Community Foundation**. This program seeks to recognize the contributions of Indiana authors to the literary landscape in Indiana and across the nation. The Award is divided into four categories: Emerging, for new writers of one or two books that show great promise; Genre Excellence, for writers who excel in a specific literary genre; Regional, for writers well known and respected especially in Indiana and the Midwest; and National, for writers of widespread acclaim and reputation. Each winning author receives a cash prize and a \$2,500 grant for the Indiana public library of his or her choice.

Discussion Questions

1. The chapters alternate between Odette's voice and an omniscient third-person narrator. What is the effect of this in storytelling? Why does Moore choose Odette as a narrator rather than Clarice or Barbara Jean?
2. Does Moore, as a man, convey the feelings of women accurately and convincingly?
3. The diner in Plainview, Indiana, where the women gather is central to the novel. How does Moore establish a sense of place?
4. The story features the ghost of a drunken Eleanor Roosevelt. Why do you think Moore chose to include this particular historical figure? What role does she play in the narrative?
5. Compare Odette, Clarice and Barbara Jean to other portrayals of African-American women in literature, film or television.
6. Moore, a professional cellist, has said "Music wasn't something that I could separate from my literary life; it was a necessary feature of it." How do his musical influences manifest in the novel?

Questions 1 and 2 and the book summary are adapted from edwardkelseymoore.com.

