

The Sorauren Book Club – Synopsis

What begins as another regular book club turns into a tempestuous, lively and ultimately, heartwarming evening. Friendships are tested, secrets threaten to be exposed and unknown pasts invited to the present. After 10 years of meeting, *The Sorauren Book Club* gathers at Susan's home to discuss the book of the evening, *The Testament of Mary*, by Colm Toibin. The discussion proves trying as it illuminates the women's very opposed interpretations of faith, herstories and motherhood. Three months ago, a meeting ended in fireworks as a deeply offended member stormed off into the night and became estranged with the others. The newest club member, Susan, reached out to the estranged Portia and has secretly invited her to this evening's book club. Susan hopes that the women can make amends and returns to the harmonious friendships that the club was built upon.

Portia arrives, tempers flare and hurt feelings once again surface. Issues of loyalty emerge and Charlene questions who has the right to be in the club. The women painfully work through their differences - but not without threats to expose secrets. Lucelle fears disappearing and Priya struggles to keep the women focused on the discussion, while Susan, offended by the book, implores the women to have faith in each other.

These vibrant and tenacious women share their disappointment and anger, along with their abiding love and need for each other in a play full of humour, warmth and human fallibility. Portia, feeling abandoned by her friends, addresses the theme of the play "What good are we, as aging women, if not for caring for each other? Witnessing our lives and our struggles. We need to support each other, not battle each other."