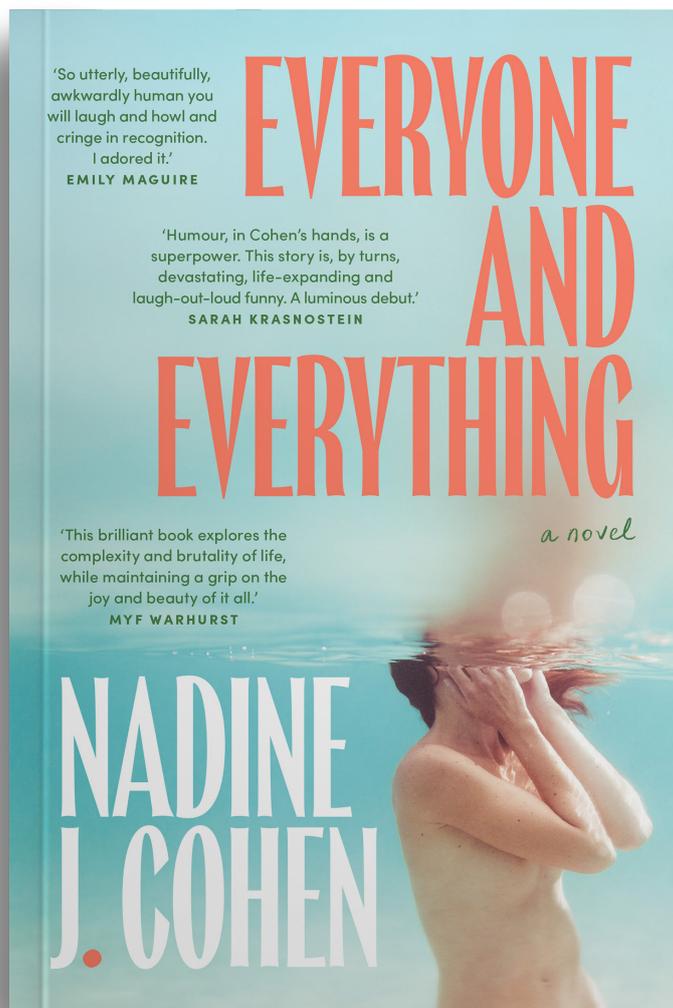


# BOOK CLUB NOTES



## PRAISE FOR THE BOOK

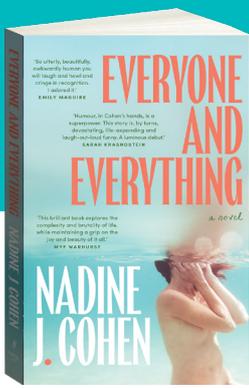
*'So utterly, beautifully, awkwardly human you will laugh and howl and cringe in recognition. This is a novel about facing up to the worst of life and stubbornly deciding to go ahead and love it anyway. I adored it.'* **Emily Maguire**

*'I couldn't put it down. Humour, in Cohen's hands, is a super power. She uses it so deftly to tell a story that is, by turns, devastating, life-expanding and laugh-out-loud funny. A luminous debut.'* **Sarah Krasnostein**

*'A clever, funny, and very warm novel about illness, death and grief – and a lead character that I really wanted to hang out with longer.'* **Holly Throsby**

*'Delicate yet unyielding, fresh yet familiar, Nadine Cohen breathes new life into sad girl lit and redefines the term "a stunning debut." Everyone and Everything is tender, honest and utterly unputdownable. It ruined my weekend plans and turned my world new colours from page one.'* **Genevieve Novak**

*'This brilliant book doesn't shy away from the rough stuff, exploring the complexity and brutality of life, all the while maintaining a grip on to the occasional simple joy and beauty of it all. I was cackling away at Nadine's unique perspectives one minute, and sobbing the next. A magnificent debut!'* **Myf Warhurst**



# EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING

## By Nadine J. Cohen

### PRAISE FOR THE BOOK

'One of the best books I've read in ages and ages.'

Ewa Ramsey

'This novel is melancholy, funny and unpredictable – just like its protagonist. A great read.' Allee Richards

'This book gave me all the feelings.' John Birmingham

### ABOUT THE BOOK

A dazzling literary debut, *Everyone and Everything* will make you laugh, cry and call your sister.

When Yael Silver's world comes crashing down, she looks to the past for answers and finds solace in surprising places. An unconventional new friendship, a seaside safe space and an unsettling amount of dairy help her to heal, as she wrestles with her demons – and some truly terrible erotic literature.

Funny and tender, *Everyone and Everything* is about friendship, grief and the deep, frustrating bond between sisters. It asks what makes us who we are and what leads us onto ledges. Perfect for fans of Meg Mason, Nora Ephron and Victoria Hannan, this is an intimate, wry and wise exploration of one woman's journey to the brink and back.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nadine J. Cohen, also known as Nadine von Cohen, is a writer and refugee advocate from Sydney. Her musings can be found all over the internet, with bylines in *The Guardian*, *The Saturday Paper*, *SMH*, *ABC*, *SBS*, *Frankie*, *Harper's Bazaar* and more. She co-founded and directed Hope for Nauru, a volunteer-run not-for-profit serving refugees and asylum seekers affected by offshore detention, from 2018 to 2023. *Everyone and Everything* is her debut novel.

1. What does the title *Everyone and Everything* mean to you within the context of the story?
2. How do Yael and Liora's differences affect their relationship? Can you see any similarities between them?
3. Why do you think the baths were such a healing place for Yael? Do you have a place that brings you the same sense of peace and respite from the world?
4. How did the author's writing style and the structure of the book affect your understanding of Yael as a character?
5. Why do you think Yael is so close to her nieces and nephew? What does being an aunty mean to her?
6. How has intergenerational trauma affected Yael and her family? Discuss the different parent-child relationships in the book.
7. Discuss the importance of friends like Romy and Margot.
8. How did Yael's sense of humour help or hinder her when processing difficult things?
9. Yael acknowledges her privilege in being able to take a break from work to heal – but what do you think her journey would have looked like if she wasn't in this position?
10. How does *50 Shades of Grey* help Yael? What books have helped you through a hard moment in your life?
11. What do you think Shirley got out of her friendship with Yael?
12. Did you suspect what Shirley's secret was? Were there any signs? Should she have told Yael?
13. What do you think the future holds for Yael and Andy?
14. Why do you think Yael stayed in a toxic relationship with 'Him' for so long? How do you think it affected her?
15. Do you think the book has a message or messages?