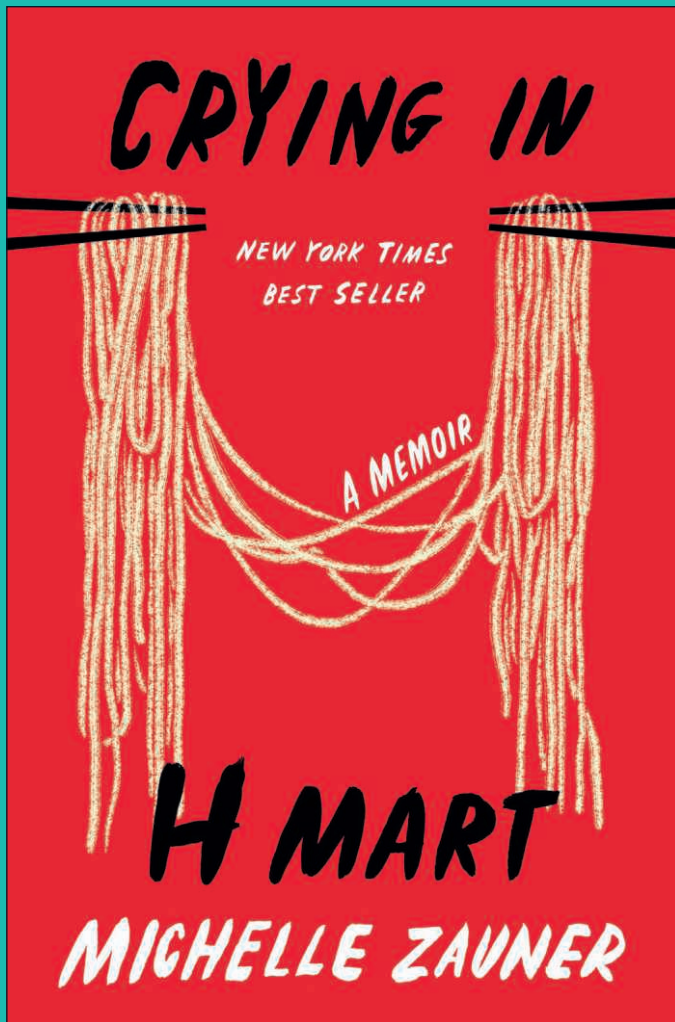


# all alexandria reads

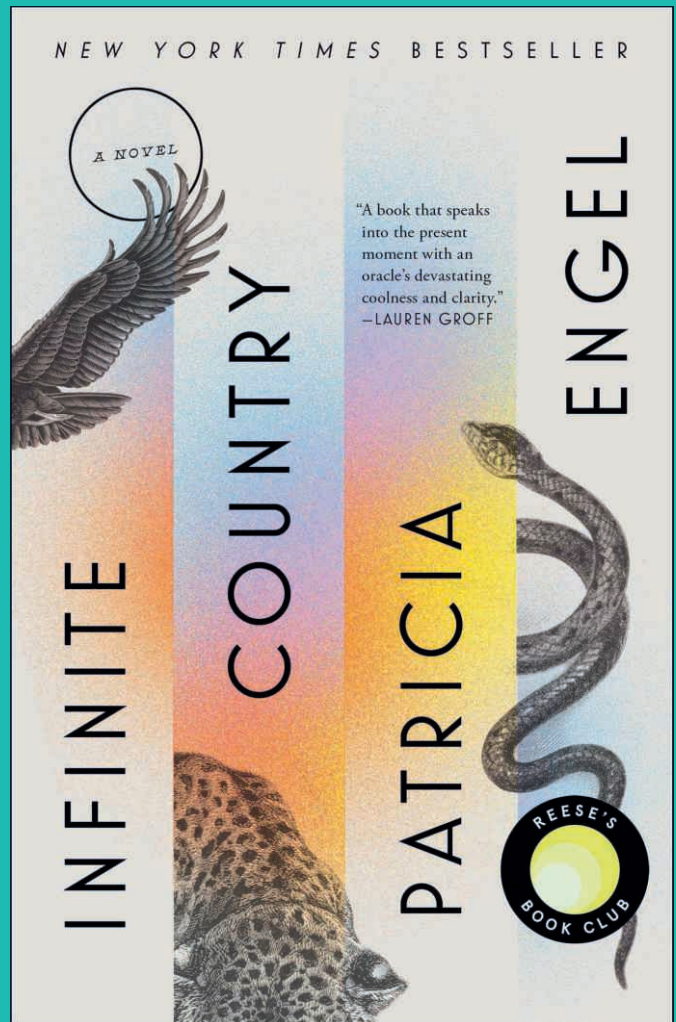
2022

The Alexandria Library  
invites you to read



## Crying in H Mart

by Michelle Zauner



## Infinite Country

by Patricia Engel

Charles E. Beatley, Jr.  
Central Library  
5005 Duke Street  
703.746.1702

Kate Waller Barrett  
Branch Library  
717 Queen Street  
703.746.1703

Ellen Coolidge Burke  
Branch Library  
4701 Seminary Road  
703.746.1704

James M. Duncan, Jr.  
Branch Library  
2501 Commonwealth Avenue  
703.746.1705



# Library Events

## About

### All Alexandria Reads

Facilitated by the Alexandria Library, this program is designed to create shared experiences through reading. Everyone is invited to read the featured titles and selected books for younger readers.

## Resilience

Our theme for All Alexandria Reads 2022 is "resilience." The Oxford English Dictionary defines resilience as "the quality or fact of being able to recover [from] .. or resist being affected by, a misfortune, shock, illness, etc." Over the past few years, our resilience has been tested. We have all experienced a global pandemic as well as other hardships like losing loved ones, moving, losing jobs, or facing discrimination. This year, Alexandria Library acknowledges the struggles that our community continues to experience, but celebrates our strength to move forward and overcome.

## Similar "Read-Alike" Books For Younger Readers

### Young Adult (YA)

*Punching the Air*  
by Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam

### Middle Grade

*When Stars Are Scattered*  
by Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed

### Early Elementary

*Save Me a Seat*  
by Sarah Weeks

### Pre-K

*Saturday*  
by Oge Mora

## CHILDREN/ FAMILIES

### Composting for Beginners (Outdoors, Beatley)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2 PM**

Learn how to turn food waste into nutrient-rich humus that feeds the soil! Whether you want to start your own composting system at home, learn where you can drop off your food scraps, or just want to hear about the benefits of composting, this program is for you. It will be held outdoors in the Beatley Central Library's Reading Garden. (All ages; children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult)

### Poetry Fence: Words of Resilience (Indoors, Duncan)

**MONTH-LONG DISPLAY, APRIL**

Come by the Duncan Branch Library to read words of resilience on a poetry fence installation. This is an interactive poetry installation for all ages; you can write or share a poem to be added to the curated poetry fence. This installation celebrates the community coming together around the power and resiliency of words. (All ages; children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult)

### Saturday at the Library: Story Time (Outdoors, Duncan)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 11 AM**

Join us in Duncan's Butterfly Garden for an outdoor story time! This program is in honor of the All Alexandria Reads picture book choice *Saturday* by Oge Mora.

### Field Day (Outdoors, Beatley)

**MONDAY, APRIL 4, 11 AM**

Active, healthy bodies are resilient bodies! Come jump, toss, crawl, stretch and play in the Beatley Central Library's Reading Garden during this special activity. (Ages 0-5; must be accompanied by an adult)

### Tween Art: DIY Stress Balls (Outdoors, Beatley)

**TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 4:30 PM**

Make different variations of stress balls. This program will be in person at the Beatley Central Library Reading Garden. (Ages 8-12)

### All Alexandria Reads Pajama Story Time (Virtual)

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 6:30 PM**

Celebrate the start of All Alexandria Reads with library-themed Pajama Story Time books. Join Miss Kayla and Miss Katie for an exceptionally awesome story time! (All ages)

### Bubbles! (Outdoors, Burke) **SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 11:30 AM**

Make bubbles big and small, and make your own bubble wand! Learn how bubbles work and have some silly fun outdoors! (All ages; children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult)

### Lawn Art (Outdoors, Barrett) **SATURDAY, APRIL 9 & 23, 2 PM, SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2 PM**

Join us on the lawn outside the Children's Department at the Barrett Branch for three different make-and-take projects. Too busy on Saturday afternoons? Take-home kits will also be available for pickup at Barrett during the week that follows each program. (Ages 0-12, children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult)

### Family Story Time with the APD (Outdoors, Beatley)

**MONDAY, APRIL 11, 11 AM &  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 11 AM**

Join an officer from the Alexandria Police Department for a special story time featuring picture books about resilience. We'll meet in the Beatley Central Library Reading Garden. (Ages 0-5; must be accompanied by an adult)

### Scribble Book Club (Virtual)

**MONDAY, APRIL 11 & 25, 4 PM**

To celebrate All Alexandria Reads, we are diving into two graphic novels this month! Pick up your copies from the Duncan Children's Desk starting in late March! For our April 11th meeting we're reading *When Stars are Scattered* by Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed. For our meeting on April 25th we're reading *Another Kind* by Cait May and Trevor Bream. (Ages 8-12)

### Alexandria Children's Theatre Workshops (Virtual)

**MONDAY, APRIL 11, 18 & 25, 4:30 PM**

Using an animal of their choosing as a foundation, participants will mold and create characters both vocally and physically, and apply these characteristics to scene work. Attendance at all sessions is not mandatory, but the final session will build on the previous ones. (Ages 10-13)

### Lessons in Resilience from Trees (Virtual)

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 7 PM**

The lessons learned from nature give us not only hints about what to do, but also the mindset we need to adopt to be resilient as the Earth changes beneath our feet. Trees have existed on Earth for 1,000 times longer than humans, so what might our species learn from these ancient beings as we traverse the next century of uncertainty? Join us on Zoom to find out. (All ages)

## CHILDREN/FAMILIES (CONT.)

### Learning for Laughs: Comedy for Kids (Outdoors, Beatley)

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 4:30 PM

A good sense of humor can help you be resilient. Have you ever thought you might want to be a comedian or learn how to write a joke? Join a former stand-up comedian (and current librarian!) to see what it's like. This program will be in person in the Beatley Central Library Reading Garden. (Ages 8-12)

### Saturday Story Time on YouTube (Virtual)

SATURDAY, APRIL 16, ALL DAY

Miss Lisa presents a special story time with the AAR picture book selection *Saturday*. (Ages 0-5)

### Take and Make: Origami Lotus Flower (Take home, Beatley)

APRIL 19-30, ALL DAY

Because the lotus flower can adapt to many environments, it is considered to be a symbol of resilience. Visit the Beatley Central Library to pick up supplies and instructions for making your own origami lotus. (Ages 7-12)

### Peter McCarty, the "One Man Band" (Outdoors, Barrett)

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 11 AM

It's a concert on the lawn outside the Children's Room, starring Peter McCarty, the "One Man Band!" Come sing and dance along with his music. (All ages, children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult)

### Bar C Ranch (Outdoors, Burke)

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1 PM

Come visit Bar C Ranch's llama, donkey, mini cow, sheep, goat and rabbit – and some surprise animals! Learn about how animals adapt to their environment. (All ages; children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult)

### Preschool Story Time and Craft – Being Strong (Outdoors, Burke)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 4 PM

Come enjoy our preschool story time program centered on the theme of feeling all the feels and staying strong. We'll read books, sing songs, dance, and finish with an outdoor craft. (Ages 3-5; must be accompanied by an adult)

### Toddler Story Time – Moving and Shaking (Outdoors, Burke)

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 10:30 AM

Get the wiggles out while singing, dancing and reading! Toddlers and their grownups will learn mindfulness activities to help focus and settle, too. (Ages 1-3, must be accompanied by an adult)

### Ukulele Jon of the Unlikely Strummers (Outdoors, Beatley)

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2 PM

Sing, dance or tap along with Ukulele Jon of the Unlikely Strummers. Lots of fun for families and children of all ages! Join us in the Beatley Central Library Reading Garden. (All ages; children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult)

### Meet Your Wildest Bird Neighbors (Outdoors, Burke)

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1:30 PM

Join Secret Garden Birds and Bees to learn about the birds of prey living right in your own backyard. Meet our wildlife ambassadors – Scarlett (barred owl), Kvosir (screech owl), Phantom (barn owl), and Pippin (American kestrel) – who will help us tell the story of how they are learning to live and thrive among us in an increasingly human world. Learn how to identify our native raptors and how to find them. (All ages; children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult)

## TEENS

### Teen Book Club (Virtual)

THURSDAY, APRIL 7 & 21, 5:30 PM

In celebration of All Alexandria Reads, Teen Book Club will be reading this year's book of choice – *Punching the Air* by Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam. During these meetings, teens will be able to discuss the themes of resilience within this story written in verse, which is based on the author's real-life experience of being wrongfully incarcerated. (Ages 13-18)

### Book Bar: Teen Book Club (Virtual)

MONDAY, APRIL 25, 7 PM

Teens, let's talk books! Give a review of any book you've read recently, and get some ideas for new reads! To celebrate All Alexandria Reads this month, we'll focus on books around the theme of resilience. (Ages 13-18)

### Yoga for Teens (Outdoors, Burke)

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 3:45 PM

Join Yogi Marsha from PIES Fitness for yoga just for teens! Learn some ways to help you stay focused at school and in life through gentle yoga poses. Don't worry -- you don't have to know yoga to participate! (Ages 13-18)

## ADULTS

### How Did You Do That? (Virtual)

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2 PM

Learn how to turn your hobby into your side hustle. KaNikki Jakarta and Mike Shea talk about self-publishing.

### U.S.-Mexico Border: Organized Crime, Border Security, Immigration, and DREAMers (Virtual)

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 3 PM

Dr. Guadalupe Correa-Cabrera explores the phenomena of human trafficking, migrant smuggling, and other forms of organized crime along Mexico's migration routes, as well as the dangerous journey that migrants and asylum-seekers undergo from Central and South America to the U.S.-Mexico border.

### Resiliency on the Southern Border (Virtual)

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 7 PM

Rebecca Eichler, immigration attorney and human rights advocate, reports on what she has experienced working on the U.S.-Mexico border.

### The Art of Resilience Challenge (Virtual)

APRIL - MAY

The Alexandria Library, in partnership with UpCycle, invites you to build your resilience by creating art with reused materials. By making choices and moving forward through the art-making process, we make connections, deepen our understanding, and gain confidence so that resilience-building skills will grow.

### The Art of Resilience Challenge Workshop (Virtual)

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 6:30 PM

Join this one-hour Zoom class to get inspiration for the upcycling art challenge.

Interested in more programs?





## ADULTS (CONT.)

### Resources for Newcomers (Virtual)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 5 PM &  
THURSDAY, MAY 5, 5 PM**

Northern Virginia Community College and the Alexandria Workforce Development Center explain what programs they have for newcomers to our area and how the application process works.

### Climate-Conscious Gardening (Outdoors, Barrett)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 11 AM**

Join us outdoors at the Barrett Branch for an early celebration of Earth Day with a presentation by local Master Gardener Elaine Mills. She will provide a handy checklist of sustainable garden practices.

### Art of Resilience: Exploring Migration and Identity with TeaYoun Kim-Kassor (Virtual)

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 4 PM**

Kim-Kassor explores the inextricable connection between 'Who am I?' and 'Where am I?' that defines us as individuals through her mixed media and installation artwork. She is currently a professor at the Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles, CA.

### Becoming Resilient When There is Resistance (In person, Beatley Large Meeting Room)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1 PM**

Poet Laureate KaNikki Jakarta and Molly Rufus, winner of the Young Poets in the Community Award, present a writing workshop on the theme of resiliency. Participate in writing exercises and contribute to a group piece.

### Birds and Nature in Culture in Latin America (Virtual)

**MONDAY, APRIL 18, 7 PM**

Birds and nature have played a significant part in the cultures of Latin America. Bill Young will discuss how hummingbirds, quetzals, condors, and other birds and nature have influenced the lives of people living in Central and South America.

### What's Next for Me Along My Path? (Virtual)

**TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 7 PM**

Caregiving requires resilience. Learn from Serena Wills' journey caring for her mother, and get actionable advice for how to utilize self-care to stay resilient as a caregiver.

### Birds and Nature in Culture in East Asia (Virtual)

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 7 PM**

Birds and nature have played a significant part in the cultures of East Asia. Bill Young will discuss how birds and other nature have influenced the lives of people in China, Japan, Korea, and other areas in East Asia.

### Casa Mariflor: A Story of an Immigrant Helping Immigrant Families (Virtual)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 11 AM**

To some, Mariflor Ventura, a Salvadoran immigrant, is a hero who has helped hundreds of local families get food on the table. Join us to hear Mariflor tell her own story and talk about her work with Casa Mariflor.

### Food for Thought: If Food Could Talk (Virtual)

**TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 4 PM**

Author and scientist Theodore C. Dumas highlights 13 important foods that will likely disappear in the very near future due to climate change, and ways we can save these precious foods.

### Making Alexandria Home: A History of Exclusion and Activism, 1900s-1970s (Virtual)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 3 PM**

Author and professor Krystyn Moon discusses the history of African American housing crisis in Alexandria, which reflected the larger housing issues African Americans faced during the mid-twentieth century in American cities.

### Welcome to the Climate Resilience Hub (Virtual)

**FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 9:30 AM**

The Climate Resilience Hub is a space to discuss climate realities and explore how to prepare and adapt. After the virtual tutorial, visit the Hub in person at the Barrett Branch to receive a free starter emergency kit.

### Tiny Book Journals/Cards (Outdoors, Barrett)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 11 AM**

These small books are made from one piece of paper that is folded and decorated. They are fun to make and can be used to reflect on the resilience required the last two years or to give to someone as a card. All materials supplied. (Registration required)

### Writing to Wellness™ (In person, Beatley Large Meeting Room)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2 PM**

A discussion-based workshop presented by C. Alexandria-Bernard Thomas and designed for writers to use poetry as a tool for healing when navigating trauma. Participants learn helpful tips via discussion on how to navigate trauma through expressive forms of creative writing, how to advocate for others and how to build a safe space for self-care.

### Do-Nothing Farming: The Philosophy and Practices of the Masanobu Fukuoka Natural Farm (Virtual)

**THURSDAY, MAY 5, 8 PM**

In 1978, Masanobu Fukuoka's book *The One-Straw Revolution* shared with the world the radical idea of farming and living within the limits of natural boundaries. Join us for a conversation with Fukuoka's grandson, Hiroki Fukuoka, who continues this way of farming and being in relationship with the earth. Live Japanese-to-English translation will be provided.

### Lessons from the Edge – A Memoir: Author Talk by Marie Yovanovitch (Outdoors, Pat Miller Square at Mount Vernon and Oxford Avenues in Del Ray)

**MONDAY, MAY 9, 7 PM**

Marie Yovanovitch served as the U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, Armenia, and Kyrgyzstan during her 33-year career. She came into public view when she provided testimony to Congress as she was pulled into the blinding lights of the first impeachment inquiry of Donald Trump. Ms. Yovanovitch will provide insights into the resilience she demonstrated throughout her career and on the national stage as recorded in her memoir published in March 2022.

## More information



# Sponsors and Partners

All Alexandria Reads is made possible through a generous grant from the

## James M. Duncan, Jr. Library Foundation, Inc.

Additional partners include the following local businesses and organizations:



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# Questions to think about

while reading *Crying in H Mart* and *Infinite Country*

Courtesy of bookclubs.com and bookclubchat.com

- How do both authors express resilience in their work?

## ***Crying in H Mart***

- Food is a prominent motif throughout the memoir. How does the author use various food references to anchor you to specific locations, memories, and cultures? Which foods in the book were the most memorable to you and why?
- The author touches on various incidents of racism and alienation throughout her life, and discusses both idealizing whiteness and fearing that she is not Korean enough. What does this reveal about the complications of growing up mixed-race and with Asian heritage in America? How does it compare to Asian American representation and access to opportunities today?

## ***Infinite Country***

- Karina wonders if she can feel truly connected to a country where her family has no previous history. In your opinion, what makes a place a true home? Is identity connected to one's birthplace?
- Many times in the novel the characters struggle with the question of wondering if life is really better for them in the U.S. or if they would have been better off to stay in Colombia. What are your thoughts on the decision to come to the U.S.? How did the American dream fail to live up to its promise for the family?

**VIRTUAL BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS - Go to [alexlibraryva.org/events](http://alexlibraryva.org/events) and search by date**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 7 PM**  
discussing  
*Infinite Country*

**MONDAY, APRIL 11, 7 PM**  
discussing  
*Crying in H Mart*

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 3 PM**  
discussing  
*Crying in H Mart*

## Alexandria Library Locations

### **Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library**

5005 Duke Street, 22304  
703.746.1702

### **Kate Waller Barrett Branch Library**

717 Queen Street, 22314  
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### **James M. Duncan, Jr. Branch Library**

2501 Commonwealth Avenue, 22301  
703.746.1705

### **Local History/Special Collections**

717 Queen Street, 22314  
703.746.1706

### **Alexandria Law Library**

520 King Street, LL 34, 22314  
703.746.4077



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