



## Northeast Book Club

The Secret Life of Lobsters by Trevor Corson

8:00-9:00 PM ET on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Meeting Schedule

Date	Chapters	Number of Pages
5/25/23	<i>Part Four: Surviving</i> Chapter 10: The Superlobsters Chapter 11: Attack of the Killer Fish Chapter 12: Kindergarten Cops <i>Part Five: Sensing</i> Chapter 13: See No Evil Chapter 14: Against the Wind	69
6/8/23	<i>Brooding</i> Chapter 15: Gathering the Flock Chapter 16: Victory Dance Chapter 17: Fickle Seas Epilogue	62

### Discussion Questions

As you read, you will most likely come up with questions of your own. Jot them down and share them with us! Here are the questions Carol, our facilitator, and I came up with as we read Chapters 10-14 last week.

#### **Chapter 10: The Superlobsters**

1. Lobsters go through many stages, and many do not survive. Do you think “the harsh realities of growing into a proper baby,” or the “bottleneck” of space has the biggest effect on the lobster population?
2. What is Corson’s intent when he personifies the lobster through use of terms such as “veteran ladies,” “man,” (p 121) and “proper baby” (p 148)? What impact does his use of personification have on you?

#### **Chapter 11: Attack of the Killer Fish**

1. Which fish do you think had the biggest effect on the lobster industry and why?

#### **Chapter 12: Kindergarten Cops**

1. The lobster population discussed in this chapter increased and decreased in various locations, with both scientists and lobsterers left wondering why. Do you agree with the ecologists’ conclusion that they “felt like hall monitors in a popular school that had suddenly lost its pupils?” How would you answer the question at the end of the chapter: “had the government and scientists been right all along?”

### **Chapter 13: See No Evil**

1. Were you surprised to learn that the lobsters use urine, sprayed from the front of their faces, to communicate for both fighting and courtship? How could this information be used to help the lobster industry?

### **Chapter 14: Against the Wind**

1. How do you think using Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUV) could help or hinder both the research and the lobster industry?