

• THE GIRLY BOOK CLUB •
EXHALATION
BY TED CHIANG

1. Did you enjoy this book? Rate it out of 5.
2. Did you enjoy one story over another?
3. Discuss the length of the stories - some are short while others much longer - did the longer stories help draw you in better than the shorter ones?
4. Ted Chiang's book is Science Fiction - but some stories are more probable than others. Which seemed completely far-fetched to you?
5. The lifecycle of software objects is the longest story in the book - and touches on the future of human life in relationship to AI. What did you make of the digients? Can you imagine owning one?
6. The Merchant and the Alchemist's Gate is a story of time travel - you can visit 20 years in the future or 20 years in the past. Which way would you go, if any?
7. The second story in the book is Exhalation, the title of the book itself. The story was about accessing our oldest memories. What do you think the author's intended message was?
8. Dacey's patent automatic nanny poses the question - would you trust a robot to raise your children? After reading this story would you?
9. The Great Silence is told from the perspective of a parrot, whose species is facing extinction. What did you make of the story told from this perspective - what it effective in your mind?
10. Did this collection of stories make you think and/or wonder about the world or future of humanity and technology? What stood out most to you or concerned you the most?