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Libby READS UNITED STATES

April 23 - May 7

Dear Reader,

Thank you so much for choosing *Familia* as part of Libby Reads. I'm truly honored to know that readers across the country—and beyond—are opening this book together.

At its heart, *Familia* is a story about how we define family—and what happens when that definition is challenged. In an era when ancestry DNA tests and long-buried records are revealing unexpected truths, many of us are being asked to rethink where we come from, who belongs to us, and what really makes a family. Those discoveries can be joyful, unsettling, or something in between—and they often raise more questions than answers.

This novel grew out of my fascination with those moments of reckoning: when the stories we've always believed about our families are complicated by new information, and when love and loyalty are tested by truth. *Familia* explores how people respond when the past resurfaces, and whether family is something we inherit—or something we choose.

Libraries have always been central to my life as a reader and a writer, so sharing this book through a collective library experience feels especially meaningful. I hope *Familia* sparks conversation, reflection, and lively discussion among readers.

Thank you for being part of this shared reading experience. I can't wait to hear your thoughts.

Warmly,

Lauren E. Rico