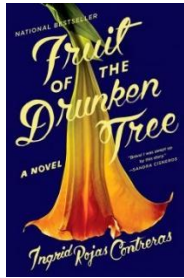




# Community Raving About Books (C.R.A.B.) Book Club Guide



## ***Fruit of the Drunken Tree* by Ingrid Rojas Contreras**

Doubleday, 2018; 320 pages/audio 12 hours 31 minutes

“This striking novel offers an atmospheric journey into the narrow choices for even a wealthy family as society crumbles around them.”

–Publishers Weekly, 5/21/2018

### **Summary**

Seven-year-old Chula and her older sister Cassandra enjoy carefree lives thanks to their gated community in Bogotá, but the threat of kidnappings, car bombs, and assassinations hover just outside the neighborhood walls, where the godlike drug lord Pablo Escobar continues to elude authorities and capture the attention of the nation. When their mother hires Petrona, a live-in-maid from the city's guerrilla-occupied slum, Chula makes it her mission to understand Petrona's mysterious ways. As both girls' families scramble to maintain stability amidst the rapidly escalating conflict, Petrona and Chula find themselves entangled in a web of secrecy that will force them both to choose between sacrifice and betrayal.

### **Author Information**

Ingrid Rojas Contreras was born and raised in Bogotá, Colombia. Her essays and short stories have appeared in the Los Angeles Review of Books, Electric Literature, Guernica, and Huffington Post, among others. She has received fellowships and awards from The Missouri Review, Bread Loaf Writer's Conference, VONA, Hedgebrook, The Camargo Foundation, Djerassi Resident Artists Program, and the National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures. She is the book columnist for KQED Arts, the Bay Area's NPR affiliate.

### **If you liked this book, try these!**

*And After Many Days* by Jowhor Ile

*If You Leave Me* by Crystal Hana Kim

*The Lucky Ones* by Julianne Pachico

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