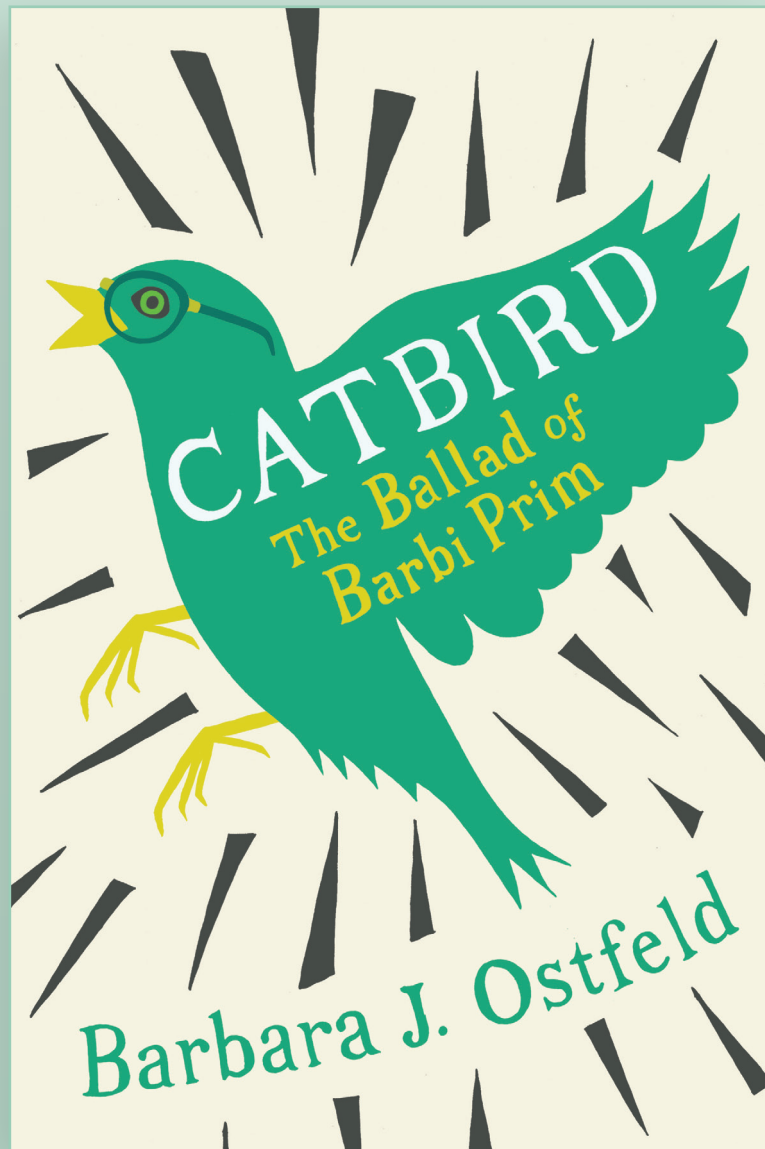


A Reading Guide for #MeToo Discussion Groups

CATBIRD *The Ballad of Barbi Prim*



ERWA

catbirdbook.com

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TRIGGER WARNING: This reading guide contains questions involving sexual trauma and violence, which may be triggering for survivors.

Questions

- 1. “Pattern and Material”**
When you were reading this vignette, did you remember any similar experiences of your own involving your clothes? How did you interpret what happened at the time? How do you interpret it now?
- 2. “Purim at HUC”**
Do you have a story about a teenage gauntlet experience? Did your age or your perception of your “place” in it seem to limit the ways you handled it at the time?
- 3. “Missing My Stop”**
If you have been sexually assaulted, do you want to share your experience?
- 4. “Divorce the First”**
Has your marriage or relationship been affected by experiences of sexual misconduct?
- 5. “Max Gottheil”**
Have you ever entered into a regrettable relationship that can now be traced to an experience of sexual misconduct?
- 6. “Is There Eros?”**
Was there a wise person who helped you come to grips with taking the first step toward survival or recovery? Have you been in a position to be that person for someone else?
- 7. “Greeting Line Handshake”**
Have you had to develop habits in your work life in order to try to protect yourself from sexual misconduct?
- 8. “Interview Gauntlet”**
Do you have a “Harvey Weinstein” story too?
- 9. “The Evolution of Barbi’s Shorts”**
Have you ever noticed that you dress or act in a way that seems to protect your body? What are your current thoughts about “wearing armor” of one kind or another?

Thoughts



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Questions

10. “Cantorial Fledglings and Their Plumage”

Have you ever realized that you’ve been subconsciously blaming yourself for an ordeal that had nothing to do with any aspect of your behavior? Had you been aware of this in some way, or did you arrive at a sudden insight?

11. “Barbi’s Shorts Revisited”

In your experience, what have you recognized as first signs that you are recovering your balance in the aftermath of sexual trauma?

12. “Sitting in the Catbird Seat”

Do you have a story about a moment of internal triumph? Would you like to tell the story of your victory lap?

Thoughts

