

# *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin

Martin County Library System Book Club Kit:

## *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin

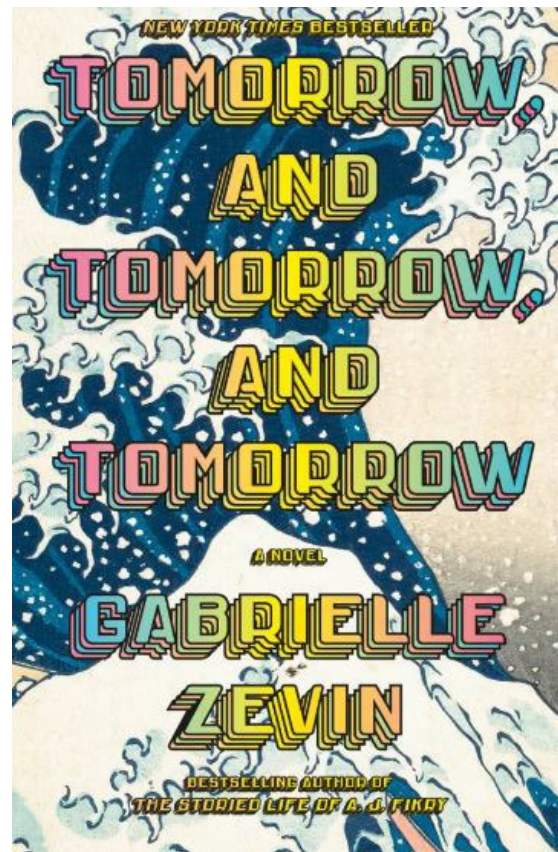
Included in the Kit:

- [Book summary](#)
- [Author biography](#)
- [Discussion questions](#)
- [Recipe suggestion](#)

### Book summary

From the New York Times best-selling author of *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry*—a glorious and immersive novel about two childhood friends, once estranged, who reunite as adults to create video games, finding an intimacy in digital worlds that eludes them in their real lives.

On a bitter-cold day, in the December of his junior year at Harvard, Sam Masur exits a subway car and sees, amid the hordes of people waiting on the platform, Sadie Green. He calls her name. For a moment, she pretends she hasn't heard him, but then, she turns, and a game begins: a legendary collaboration that will launch them to stardom. They borrow money, beg favors, and, before even graduating college, they have created



also available to  
download from Libby



# *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin

their first blockbuster, “Ichigo”: a game where players can escape the confines of a body and the betrayals of a heart, and where death means nothing more than a chance to restart and play again. This is the story of the perfect worlds Sam and Sadie build, the imperfect world they live in, and of everything that comes after success: Money. Fame. Duplicity. Tragedy.

Spanning thirty years, from Cambridge, Massachusetts, to Venice Beach, California, and lands in between and far beyond, Gabrielle Zevin’s *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* is a dazzling and intricately imagined novel that examines the multifarious nature of identity, games as art form, technology and the human experience, disability, failure, the redemptive possibilities in play, and above all, our need to connect: to be loved and to love. Yes, it is a love story, but it is not one you have read before.

Source: Author's website. ([gabriellezevin.com](http://gabriellezevin.com))



# *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin

## Meet the Author

Gabrielle Zevin (born October 24, 1977) is an American author and screenwriter. Zevin was born in New York City. Zevin's father, who is American-born, has Ashkenazi Jewish, Russian, Lithuanian, and Polish ancestry. Her mother was born in Korea and emigrated to the United States when she was 9 years old. The two met in high school in Connecticut and later worked for IBM.

She grew up in Boca Raton, Florida and graduated from Spanish River Community High School in 1996. She enrolled at Harvard University, where she studied English with a concentration in American Literature. While at Harvard, she met her partner, Hans Canosa and graduated in 2000. For nearly a decade, Zevin lived in Manhattan before moving to Los Angeles in 2012, where she presently lives with Canosa.



Source: Wikipedia.



# *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin

## Discussion Questions

1. Sam and Sadie meet, separate and meet again multiple times across the course of the book—the opening of the novel shows them reunite for the first time. Discuss the way this scene is depicted and how it makes you initially feel about the characters and their relationship.
2. ‘Before Mazer invented himself as Mazer, he was Samson Mazer, and before he was Samson Mazer, he was Samson Masur—a change of two letters that transformed him from a nice, ostensibly Jewish boy to a Professional Builder of Worlds— and for most of his youth, he was Sam, S.A.M. on the hall of fame of his grandfather’s Donkey Kong machine, but mainly Sam.’ [p. 3] How does Sam’s identity as ‘Mazer’ differ from the Sam we see in the book? Why do you think he created a persona for his professional/public life?
3. “No.” Sam said. “We’ve never...It’s more than romantic. It’s better than romance. It’s friendship.” Sam laughed. “Who cares about romance anyway?” [p. 91] Sam and Sadie’s friendship takes the reader through the whole book—discuss how it changes from section to section. Do you think there was a romantic connection between them? Do you think they were right to choose their professional endeavors over it?
4. The reader sees Sam’s journey with his disability—through flashbacks, his present state and his inner voice. Describe how Sam’s character develops throughout the novel, and how his accident plays a role in who he is.
5. Gaming plays a huge role in *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow*. Discuss what you learned about gaming, whether this book changed your perspective of the creators of games, and why/how.
6. Marx is initially introduced as Sam’s roommate—an NPC—but ultimately goes to play a core role in the success of “Ichigo”, and Sadie and Sam’s creative partnership. What early hints are there that Marx is critical to the story, and what does his character bring to the book?



# *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin

7. There are hundreds of cultural references—books, art, games and more—throughout the book. There are also some invented elements that accompany the real works. Do these expansive references make Sadie and Sam’s world feel different to the reader? How?
8. ‘I hate the world, don’t you? I’m terrified of that world, and I don’t want to live in that world, and as a mixed-race person, I literally don’t exist in it. My dad, who I barely knew, was Jewish. My mom was an American-born Korean. I was raised by Korean immigrant grandparents in Koreatown, Los Angeles. And as any mixed-race person will tell you—to be half of two things is to be whole of nothing.’ [p.78] Discuss how identity, particularly race, plays a role in *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow*. How do Sadie, Sam and Marx [and the games they produce] represent this theme throughout?
9. As Sam often said to Sadie, “Why make anything if you don’t believe it could be great?” It is worth noting that greatness for Sam and Sadie meant different things... To oversimplify: For Sam, greatness meant popular. For Sadie, art. [p.69] Discuss the ways in which Sadie and Sam are different, and how this effects their relationship.
10. Sadie experiences her progression in the tech and gaming industry as a young woman—how does this differ compared to Sam, Marx and Dov’s experience? Is Sadie treated differently because she is a woman?
11. *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* is about two characters who you meet aged 11 and spend the next 25 years watching grow up. What was this reading experience like?

Source: Author's website. ([gabriellezevin.com](http://gabriellezevin.com))

# *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin

## Recipes

### Dong and Bong's New York Style Pizza

It's no secret that the best reading snacks are those that only require one hand—you need the other one for holding your book! *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* features New York Style pizza frequently—and we've pulled together a perfect, simple recipe for you to create at home. Now you can host the ultimate book club, with hot fresh slices served alongside.



Yield: 2- 12 inch pizzas

### Base

- 150g. ( 1 1/4 cup) 00 flour (pizza flour)
- 150g. (1 1/4 cup) all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon fine sea salt
- 3/4 teaspoon active dry yeast
- 1 teaspoon extra-virgin olive oil

Sauce (note: you can buy this pre-made if you are low on time!)

- 1 can chopped or peeled tomatoes
- 1 Tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, finely grated
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 1 medium onion
- 2 sprigs fresh basil
- 1 teaspoon sugar



# *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin

Toppings Station (all optional)

- Mozzarella, fresh sliced
- Pepperoni, for the authentic New York slice
- Mushroom, sliced
- Onion, diced
- Bacon, cubed or roughly cut
- Green peppers, diced

To make the base, combine flours and salt in a large mixing bowl.

In a smaller bowl, combine 200g. (3/4 cup) lukewarm tap water, the yeast and the olive oil, then pour it into flour mixture. Knead with your hands until well combined (approx. 3 min.) then let the mixture rest for 15 min.

Knead the rested dough for 3 min. Cut into 2 equal pieces and shape each into a ball. Place on a floured surface, cover with a dampened cloth, and let rest and rise for 3-4 hours at room temperature.

Once risen, place each dough ball on a heavily floured surface and use your fingers to stretch it, then your hands to shape it into rounds or squares.

To make your sauce, chop or process tomatoes and their juice until pureed. Puree should not be completely smooth but chunks should be very fine. Put to one side. Place oil in medium saucepan over medium-low heat. Add the garlic, oregano, pepper flakes, and a large pinch of salt and cook, stirring frequently, until fragrant but not browned, for about 3 min. Add the tomatoes, onion (peeled and cut into quarters), basil and sugar.

Bring to a simmer, and reduce heat to the lowest setting, and cook, stirring occasionally, until reduced by half, ideally for an hour. Discard onions and basil stems. Allow to cool before using on your base.

Now add your cheese — we recommend using fresh mozzarella, grated. You can slice it in rounds for an extra cheesy base! Distribute evenly across the pizza base, to taste, and then add whatever toppings you prefer. For a true NY-style pizza, we



# *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin

recommend adding plenty of pepperoni, or if you're a vegetarian, sliced mushrooms, green peppers and onions are a delicious combo. All will pair well together, as will some delicious salty crisp bacon (cook this in a pan before you add to your pizza). Bake in an oven for approximately 5-7 min.

Once it's out and piping hot, sprinkle some dried oregano or chili flakes to taste, and enjoy!

Source: "Dong and Bong's." Gabrielle Zevin Reading Group Guide.  
([gabriellezevin.com/tomorrowx3/reading-group-guide](http://gabriellezevin.com/tomorrowx3/reading-group-guide))

## Strawberry Mo-Ichigo (Mojito)

Strawberries are a recurring feature throughout *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow and Tomorrow*. We've concocted the perfect book club drink- a strawberry mojito that will keep you refreshed as you discuss!



- 10-15 Strawberries (to taste)
- 3 Limes
- 2 Tablespoons sugar
- 15-20 mint leaves/ 3 sprigs
- 350 ml white rum (optional)
- 600 ml soda water or fizzy lemon drink
- Crushed Ice

First, cut the strawberries into slices, and remove the mint leaves from their sprigs crushing them slightly to bring out the flavor. Slice one lime. Load up a pitcher or jug with plenty of crushed ice.

Pour in the soda water or fizzy drink (we recommend Sprite for a perfect refreshing tang!) and the rum, if you're choosing to add alcohol. If you don't include rum, add extra fizzy lemonade or soda water. Squeeze the juice of both limes into the pitcher.





# *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* by Gabrielle Zevin

Add the sliced strawberries, sugar and mint leaves, and muddle into the mixture. Finally, add the sliced limes for garnish and additional zing. Drink long, with lots of crushed ice.

Source: "Strawberry Mo-Ichigo (Mojito)." Gabrielle Zevin Reading Group Guide.  
([gabriellezevin.com/tomorrowx3/reading-group-guide](http://gabriellezevin.com/tomorrowx3/reading-group-guide))

This document may be reproduced upon request in an alternative format by contacting the County ADA Coordinator (772) 320-3131, the County Administration Office (772) 288-5400, Florida Relay 711, or by completing our accessibility feedback form at [www.martin.fl.us/accessibility-feedback](http://www.martin.fl.us/accessibility-feedback)