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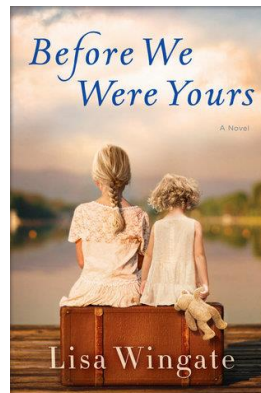
**Alumni Book Club Discussion**

**Sunday, November 18, 2018– 11 a.m.**  
**Libby and Joseph G. Shapiro Alumni House**

*This month's selection is*

***Before We Were Yours***

**By Lisa Wingate**



Memphis, 1939-Twelve-year-old Rill Foss and her four younger siblings live a magical life aboard their family's Mississippi River shanty-boat. But when their father must rush their mother to the hospital one stormy night, Rill is left in charge, until strangers arrive in force. Wrenched from all that is familiar and thrown into a Tennessee Children's Home Society orphanage, the Foss children are assured that they will soon be returned to their parents but they quickly realize that the truth is much darker. At the mercy of the facility's cruel director, Rill fights to keep her sisters and brother together in a world of danger and uncertainty.

Aiken, South Carolina, present day. Born into wealth and privilege, Avery Stafford seems to have it all: a successful career as a federal prosecutor, a handsome fiancé, and a lavish wedding on the horizon. But when Avery returns home to help her father weather a health crisis, a chance encounter leaves her with uncomfortable questions and compels her to take a journey through her family's long-hidden history, on a path that will ultimately lead either to devastation or redemption.

Based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country, Wingate's riveting, wrenching, and ultimately uplifting tale reminds us how, even though the paths we take can lead to many places, the heart never forgets where we belong.

Source: Goodreads.com

**To join the Alumni Book Club or for more information, please contact  
the Alumni Affairs Office at (516) 463-6636 or [Sandra.J.Lombino@Hofstra.edu](mailto:Sandra.J.Lombino@Hofstra.edu)**