



BOOK CLUB RESOURCE GUIDE

MEMOIR

A watercolor illustration of a cozy living room. In the center, a wooden chair with a curved back sits on a light blue rug. To the left and right are wooden bookshelves filled with books. The background features a window with light streaming in, and a small table with a plant is visible behind the chair. The overall style is soft and artistic.

THANK YOU FOR
CONSIDERING HOME FOR
YOUR NEXT BOOK CLUB
READ

BOOK CLUB
RESOURCE GUIDE

SCOTT LECKIE

In *HOME: A Life in Pursuit of the Human Right to Adequate Housing for Everyone, Everywhere*, by Scott Leckie takes readers on an extraordinary, decades-long journey from the slums of Santo Domingo to the halls of the United Nations, recounting his relentless pursuit of adequate housing as a fundamental human right for everyone, everywhere. Blending deeply personal anecdotes with a critical examination of global injustices, Leckie shares the triumphs and heartbreaks of a life dedicated to advocacy, from drafting international laws to confronting dictators and witnessing the devastating impacts of war and climate change. This powerful memoir reveals the audacity and persistence required to challenge power, the surprising ways love and hope emerge in the darkest places, and an urgent call for collective action to build a more equitable world.

WORD COUNT: 112,679

PAGE COUNT: 380

KEY WORDS: Human Rights | Housing Justice | Global Activism Climate Displacement

DEMOGRAPHICS: 25-65+ | Human Rights & Social Justice Readers

COMP BOOKS: *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer | Half the Sky:*

Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide by Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn

ISBN: 978-1-64456-899-6 [HARDCOVER]

ISBN: 978-1-64456-900-9 [PAPERBACK]

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ISBN: 978-1-64456-903-0 [AUDIOBOOK]

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Global Village Ambiance

Lighting

- Soft, warm lighting
- Fairy lights or candles
- Avoid harsh, institutional lighting.

Music

- Play the curated playlist throughout the evening, setting a varied and reflective mood.

Favors

- Small potted herbs (symbolizing "growing your own food" and sustainability).
- Bookmarks with a "Life Lesson" quote.
- A small map of the world or a globe stress ball.

Optional Props

UN Conference Corner

- A small area with a makeshift podium or whiteboard
- Encourage members to share their "resolutions" for global issues or key takeaways from the book.

Traveler's Nook

- Cozy seating areas with pillows and blankets
- Display some of Leckie's "Life Lessons" on small cards.

Decorations

- Use elements from different cultures mentioned in the book
- colorful fabrics,
- maps

THEMED ACTIVITIES - A Global Gathering

Traveler's Tales

- Encourage members to share their own travel stories or experiences
- Relate to the book's themes of human connection, injustice, or global issues.

Global Citizen's Elixir Toast

- Mix and serve the signature drink
- Have everyone raise their glass and toast to "Home for everyone, everywhere" or "Making good trouble."

THEMED ACTIVITIES-A Global Gathering

A Culinary Journey for Justice

This menu draws inspiration from the diverse locations and themes explored in HOME by Scott Leckie, focusing on community, resilience, and the universal need for a place to belong. The dishes are designed to be relatively easy to prepare, encouraging shared culinary exploration.

Appetizers

Flavors of Resilience & Community

Dominican Empanadas

- Use store-bought empanada dough circles (or puff pastry). For the filling, sauté ground beef with onion, garlic, bell peppers, cumin, and tomato paste, or use a vegetarian mix of black beans, corn, bell peppers, and chili powder. Fold dough over filling, crimp edges, and bake or air fry until golden.

Shan Potato Salad

- Boil and cube potatoes until tender. Dress with a vibrant mix of lime juice, roasted chili powder, roasted peanut powder, fish sauce (or soy sauce for vegetarian), fresh cilantro, and thinly sliced red onion. Adjust spice to taste.

THEMED MENU- Global Homes, Shared Flavors

Main Course:

A Plate for Peace & Belonging

One Earth Chicken/Chickpea Curry

- Sauté onions, garlic, and ginger until fragrant. Add chicken pieces (or chickpeas and mixed seasonal vegetables like spinach, cauliflower, or bell peppers for a vegetarian/vegan option) and brown lightly. Stir in a blend of curry powder/garam masala, turmeric, and cayenne. Add coconut milk, diced tomatoes, and a splash of vegetable broth. Simmer until chicken is cooked through (or vegetables are tender) and flavors meld. Garnish generously with fresh coriander.

Side Dishes: Journeys & Sustenance

Fragrant Basmati Rice with Toasted Coconut Flakes

- Cook basmati rice according to package directions, perhaps with a pinch of cardamom or bay leaf for added aroma. Separately, lightly toast unsweetened shredded coconut in a dry pan until golden and aromatic. Stir the toasted coconut flakes into the cooked rice.

Humanity's Harvest Green Salad with Lemon-Herb Vinaigrette

- Combine mixed greens, sliced cucumbers, cherry tomatoes, and thinly shaved carrots. For the vinaigrette, whisk together extra virgin olive oil, fresh lemon juice, Dijon mustard, minced fresh herbs (like parsley and dill), salt, and black pepper.

THEMED MENU - Global Homes, Shared Flavors

Dessert: Sweetness of Hope

Mango Sticky Rice Shooters

- Prepare glutinous sticky rice (often available pre-packaged). While warm, mix with a sweetened coconut milk sauce (coconut milk, sugar, a pinch of salt). Layer the sticky rice in small shooter glasses or bowls with fresh, ripe mango slices. Drizzle with a little more coconut milk sauce and sprinkle with toasted sesame seeds or mung beans.

Optional Preparation Strategy for Book Club

Potluck Style

- Assign different dishes to various book club members to foster a sense of shared contribution and exploration, mirroring the community aspect of the book.

Recipe Cards

- Provide simple recipe cards for each dish, perhaps with a short quote or connection to the book.

Cooking & Discussion

- Encourage members to share stories or insights about the regions as they bring their dishes, making the meal an extension of the book discussion.



This drink embodies the spirit of Leckie's global travels, his call for oneness world, and the mix of diverse cultures he encountered. It's refreshing, slightly complex, and uses ingredients from various regions he visited or discussed.

Ingredients:

- 1.5 oz White Rum
- 0.75 oz Fresh Lime Juice
- 0.5 oz Ginger Syrup
- 0.25 oz Coconut Cream
- 2 dashes Angostura Bitters
- Top with chilled Sparkling Water or Club Soda
- Garnish: A sprig of fresh mint and a thin slice of star fruit

Combine rum, lime juice, ginger syrup, and coconut cream in a shaker with ice.

Shake well until thoroughly chilled.

Strain into a chilled glass (a highball or Collins glass works well) filled with fresh ice.

Add 2 dashes of Angostura Bitters directly into the drink.

Top with sparkling water or club soda.

Garnish with a mint sprig and star fruit slice.

SIGNATURE DRINK - Global Citizen's Elixir

Grateful Dead - **Box of Rain**
Grateful Dead - **Ripple**
Bruce Cockburn - **If I Had a Rocket Launcher**
Midnight Oil - **Beds Are Burning**
John Lennon - **Imagine**
Tracy Chapman - **Talkin' 'bout a Revolution**
Bob Dylan - **Blowin' in the Wind**
Cat Stevens - **Peace Train**
U2 - **Where the Streets Have No Name**
Louis Armstrong - **What a Wonderful World**
Leonard Cohen - **Hallelujah**
Miriam Makeba - **Pata Pata**
Buena Vista Social Club - **Chan Chan**
R.E.M. - **It's the End of the World as We Know It (And I Feel Fine)**
Dire Straits - **Brothers in Arms**



SPOTIFY MUSIC RECOMMENDATIONS

A watercolor illustration of a cozy living room. In the center, there is a wooden chair with a curved back. To the left and right are tall wooden bookshelves filled with books. In the background, a table with a plant on it is visible. The overall style is soft and artistic, with a light color palette.

THIS GUIDE CONTAINS POSSIBLE
SPOILERS FOR THIS BOOK IN
THE DISCUSSION SECTION.

WARNING

- Leckie describes his lifelong quest for human rights as a "troublemaker's life." How does he define "good trouble," and in what ways do his anecdotes illustrate this philosophy in action?
- The book frequently contrasts Leckie's idealistic aspirations for human rights with the often frustrating realities of international politics and bureaucratic inertia. How does he maintain hope and persistence despite the frequent setbacks he encounters?
- Leckie dedicates his life to the human right to adequate housing. What are the various dimensions of "adequate housing" that the book explores, and what does it reveal about the global housing crisis beyond simple homelessness?
- The author shares many "Life Lessons" throughout the book. Which of these resonated most with you, and why? How might these lessons be applied in contexts beyond human rights activism?
- Discuss Leckie's experiences in different slums around the world (Dominican Republic, Thailand, Philippines). What commonalities and differences did he find in these communities, and how did his perspective on slums evolve?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- The book highlights the role of international law and institutions (like the UN) in advancing human rights, but also their limitations and flaws. What are your thoughts on the effectiveness of these global mechanisms based on Leckie's account?
- Leckie recounts painful experiences in war zones (Kosovo, Burma) and regions affected by ethnic cleansing. How do these narratives challenge or confirm your understanding of conflict and its impact on human rights?
- The theme of "oneness world" and global citizenship is central to Leckie's vision. How does he argue for this concept, and what obstacles does he identify in achieving it? Do you believe it's an attainable goal?
- Leckie's interactions with various individuals – from community activists like Chichi Ceballos to spiritual leaders like the Dalai Lama, and even "bad guys" like his Dominican driver Rafaelito or the anonymous individuals in slums – are vivid. How do these personal connections inform his understanding of human rights?
- The book touches on the deeply personal impact of Leckie's work, including his physical and emotional toll. How does his memoir balance the gravity of global issues with moments of personal joy, humor, and self-reflection? What does this balance teach us about sustaining long-term activism?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



Scott Leckie is a global human rights advocate who has lived and worked across more than a dozen countries since leaving the United States in the mid-1980s. He has addressed housing and displacement issues in over 80 nations, helping protect hundreds of thousands from forced evictions and supporting refugees and IDPs in reclaiming their homes. He founded and directs Displacement Solutions, Oneness World Foundation, and the One House, One Family initiative in Bangladesh. A leading expert on climate displacement and housing rights, he has taught internationally and authored 28 books and more than 300 publications on human rights and global governance.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

WEBSITE: www.scottleckie.com.au

OTHER BOOKS: Shrewd Little Sleuth | The Pinheiro Principles: A Commentary | Land Solutions to Climate | Housing, Land and Property Restitution Rights of Refugees and Displaced Persons | Displacement |