

## **Praise for *Someday, Maybe***

‘A masterfully woven exposition on love and loss, of the undoing of us, of what it takes to heal. Nwabineli is magic with words, and manages to be at turns bitingly funny and heartbreakingly gutting. A book that acknowledges despair whilst encouraging hope.’

— **Bolu Babalola, author of *Honey & Spice***

‘One of the most powerful novels about grief I’ve read. It is simultaneously moving, witty and restorative.’

— **Daily Mail**

‘It’s hard to believe that this outstanding novel is a debut. Poignant and heartfelt... A beautifully drawn story that shows us how to help those who are grieving.’

— **Prima, Book of the Month**

‘A love story in retrospect, heartbreaking in its inevitability but also shot through with moments of joy and humour as Eve searches for answers.’

— **Stylist**

‘A book about suicide may not sound heartwarming, but this one about a woman struggling to go on after losing her husband strikes the perfect balance between gut-wrenchingly sad and surprisingly funny. It’s a great rainy-day read about the love that rallies around us in

tragic times – and a reminder that light can come from the most unexpected sources.’

— *Good Housekeeping*

‘This tender novel about grief triumphs in its reflections on how we are buoyed by the families we are born into, and the ones we make along the way.’

— **Ayòbámi Adébéyò,**  
**author of *A Spell of Good Things***

‘An exploration of one young woman’s grief, *Someday, Maybe* is equal parts sorrow and joy, and debut writer Nwabine is one to watch.’

— **Red Magazine, Book of the Month**

‘If you are someone who gravitates toward emotional gut punch reads, allow me to introduce you to this spectacular debut.’

— *BuzzFeed*

‘A touching debut...Eve’s family are lovingly written: they gossip, chide her in Igbo and prescribe a bitter leaf soup to heal her broken heart. They also contribute to the surprising perkiness of this novel, in which sensitive observations about the nature of grief are set against humour... I was reeled in by her chatty voice and stayed for the tender, touching depiction of grief and family.’

— *The Sunday Times*

‘Incisive and witty, this deeply moving debut about the many faces of grief took me on an oscillating journey of emotions. I couldn’t put it down.’

— **Lolá Ákínmádé Ákerström,**  
**author of *In Every Mirror She’s Black***

‘Touching, funny, insightful and, well, beautiful.’

— **Dorothy Koomson,**  
**author of *My Best Friend’s Girl***

‘A beautiful and heartbreaking meditation on the layers of grief and love, the complicated expressions of human suffering and the courage it takes to let go of the past.’

— **Derek Owusu,** **author of *That Reminds Me***

‘An intimate, stunning novel. Onyi Nwabineli weaves a tender portrait of grief that attends to the ways that healing is never linear and is a life-long journey for those experiencing loss. At turns deeply poignant and darkly comedic... This book will stay with me for a long time.’

— **Jade Bentil,** **author of *Rebel Citizen***

‘Onyi Nwabineli’s graceful prose carries you through this moving meditation on grief, memory and community. *Someday, Maybe* is an astonishing debut, rich in both heartbreak and humour.’

— **Jendella Benson,** **author of *Hope & Glory***

‘*Someday, Maybe* is an honest and profoundly stirring portrait of loss... A beautifully written love letter to the resiliency of the human spirit. A stunning debut.’

— **Xio Axelrod,**  
**author of *The Girl with Stars in Her Eyes***

‘Most touching is the way Eve grows to emotional maturity as the story goes on, swapping rage for grace and hurt for healing.’

— **FT**

‘Onyi Nwabineli’s *Someday, Maybe* is a blistering debut that packs a punch. Phenomenal!’

— **Melissa Cummings-Quarry,**  
**Black Girls Book Club**

‘Nwabineli’s exceptional debut is a heartfelt and moving portrayal of grief and recovery in all its messiness...This is an excellent choice for book clubs and for readers who enjoy thought-provoking, deeply emotional fiction.’

— **Booklist (starred review)**

‘*Someday, Maybe* is a powerful debut novel about young love, profound loss, and the possibility of hope. Onyi Nwabineli is an author to watch.’

— **Brenda Jackson,**  
**author of *The House on Blueberry Lane***

‘A satisfying read and testament to our human ability to heal.’

— *San Francisco Chronicle*

‘Fuelled by inventive use of language and driven by sharp wit, the book conjures up a raw, living reality of sorrow, loss, and love... The author accomplishes a difficult task with *Someday, Maybe* – creating a genuine, living, breathing portrait of the meeting place of youth and death... A funny, realistic elegy to love.’

— *Irish Examiner*

‘Exploring themes of grief, mental illness, and irrevocable love, *Someday, Maybe* is a heartrending tale about a young Nigerian woman who loses her husband too soon. Keep the box of tissues close!’

— *Brittle Paper,*

‘100 Notable African Books of 2022’

‘Reflective and heartrending, *Someday, Maybe* is also surprisingly witty and compellingly relatable. A powerfully realised debut.’

— *Ms. Magazine*

‘An unconventional story told through the eyes of Eve, a recent widow in a British-Nigerian family. Nwabinele deftly explores themes of marriage, loss

and perseverance in what makes for a heartfilled debut novel.'

— *Hunger Magazine*

'Nwabinele deftly weaves Eve's Igbo heritage into the story, incorporating phrases, food and traditions... Both respectful and honest... Nwabinele turns clichés into quirky, imagery-laden metaphors.'

— *Associated Press*

'*Someday, Maybe* is able to capture the volatile world of grieving, embracing how it acts with chaos and complete irrationality but also welcoming the lighter moments in which we can find relief... This novel is ultimately about the resilience of the human spirit, the strength of family and community, the transformative power of love and life-long journey of healing.'

— *Bad Form*

'A perceptive, painstaking interrogation of loss and depression... Nwabinele's first novel is a clear-eyed, compassionate take on grief.'

— *Shelf Awareness*

'A devastating and powerful story about loss, love, and healing... An emotional journey packed with heartbreak, grief, and beautiful memories.'

— *She Reads*

‘Expect Nwabinele to emerge as a fresh new voice in contemporary fiction.’

— *Reader’s Digest*

‘A harrowing and beautifully written debut, I can’t wait to see what Nwabinele writes next.’

— *Em’s Shelflove*

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# ONYI NWABINELI



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For my parents, the beginning.  
For J, the end.

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## PROLOGUE

Around the time my husband was dying, I was chipping ice from the freezer in search of the ice cube tray wedged in the back. But only because I was taking a break from filling his voice mail with recriminations about his failure to communicate his whereabouts. The memory of this along with countless other things would weave together the tapestry of blame I laid upon myself in the days and weeks after his death.

Therefore, in the spirit of continued honesty, here are three things you should know about my husband:

1. He was the great love of my life despite his penchant for going incommunicado.
2. He was, as far as I and everyone else could tell, perfectly happy. Which is significant because...

3. On New Year's Eve, he killed himself.

And here is one thing you should know about me:

1. I found him.

Bonus fact: No. I am not okay

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