Welcome all book clubs!

Thank you for your interest in What She Knew. I am available to speak to your book club via phone or Skype...or in person, depending on your location. I live in New York City from October-March, and western Washington State March-October. Dates on either end vary and are tied to the needs of my fruit trees!

Following are some thoughts to get the conversation going:

1. What is your initial impression of Liz? Specifically, when you think of someone who works on Wall Street, what thoughts/emotions does that generate?
2. Early in the story, Liz's boss nudges her toward unethical behavior. Pressure is on because of the financial meltdown, and she is urged to do whatever it takes to keep her job. What would you do in her situation?
3. Have you or someone you know been asked to do something that borders on the unethical to keep your job? This could be something large or small.
4. Barbara, Liz's sister, serves an important purpose in the story. What do you think that is? How do you see these sisters, who are polar opposites in many ways?
5. Chloe Esterman is a woman whose past generates a lot of judgment, especially among New York City elites. Yet she is more than she appears to be. Discuss times when you or someone you know have been judged unfairly because of past mistakes.
6. The character of Janice is an homage to the administrative assistants of the world, who keep things humming along with little fanfare. I spent many years on the "day job" as an assistant. Discuss any unsung heroes you know of in the workplace.
7. The story begins with a family estrangement. Liz is deeply hurt that her aunt didn't support her in her career. Yet Aunt Edna was like a mother to her. Discuss the complexities of family relationships and the importance of making peace while we still can.
8. Compare/contrast the differences between Rick and Allen. Which seems like a better fit for Liz, and why?
9. Do you think Liz is innocent? Why or why not?
10. If you don't think Liz is innocent, what would be a fitting punishment?
11. Do you think Liz is going to be happy in Washington State? Why or why not?
12. If you were Liz, what would you do next?