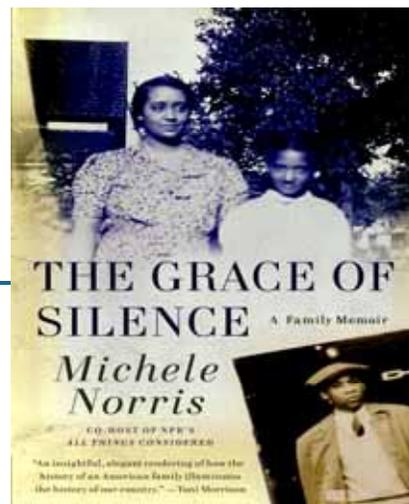


# One Minneapolis, *One Read*:

## Fact sheet



### ***The community shares a book & conversation***

This year, folks all over Minneapolis will have something in common: a book. One Minneapolis, One Read will bring people in the city together and spark conversations by having everyone read the same book.

### ***The book***

The book is “The Grace of Silence” by Minneapolis native and National Public Radio host Michele Norris. This memoir describes the experience of the Norris’ as the first black family on their block in a south Minneapolis neighborhood. Norris also details her discovery of race-based family secrets. In her research for the book, Norris learned that her father, upon his return from service in WWII, had been shot by a Birmingham police officer.

### ***Getting involved***

“The Grace of Silence” offers opportunities for conversation about race, family and neighborhood history. This is the first time Minneapolis has embarked on an initiative like this, and you can get involved by reading “The Grace of Silence”, sponsoring a book discussion, hosting a movie and discussion that explores issues of race, exploring and discovering history of your neighborhood in the context of race, sponsoring a day of listening, encouraging listening to family and friends and recording those conversations. Or, come up with your own way to participate!

### ***The inspiration***

The idea for a community read was inspired by Building Bridges, a group of residents in south Minneapolis neighborhoods whose mission is to understand how race and racism impact our communities. Instead of walking away from difficult discussions on a recent racially-polarized local issue, the community wanted to find a way to help promote better understanding and enable more discussion. Norris’ aunt, Doris Christopher, is one of the leaders of Building Bridges.

### ***Events***

There will be events this fall that will include a variety of opportunities to share and learn. Start reading the hardcover now or just spread the word and get ready for the paperback release at the beginning of September. We’ll have some big events in October and ways to get involved throughout the fall and early 2012. And, author Michele Norris will visit and join the discussion. You can learn more about “The Grace of Silence” and Michele Norris’ efforts to engage people in conversations about race at [www.michele-norris.com](http://www.michele-norris.com).

For more information & to get involved in One Minneapolis, One Read:

Visit: [www.minneapolismn.gov/oneread](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/oneread)

Email: [oneread@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:oneread@minneapolismn.gov)

Call: Cheyenne Erickson: (612) 673-2052 or Jenny Chayabutr: (612) 673-2509.



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