

FAQs about the adult book group – BOOKED SOLID

How do you choose your books?

The two librarians who lead the group choose the books. Although the criteria are not scientific, books are chosen that:

- are from a variety of genres
- are classics
- are well reviewed
- have been recommended by Reading Group members
- address topics in the news
- have ideas that will spark a spirited discussion
- have enough copies to go around

Where do the group members get their books?

All the books belong to the library. In order for a book to qualify for the group there must be enough copies for all the members.

What kinds of books does the group read?

We read all kinds of fiction and non-fiction. We have read and are reading classics, best sellers, biographies, travel books, mysteries, sports books, humorous titles and even graphic novels. We have even had an author present while we discussed her book.

Who leads the group discussion?

Two volunteer librarians - Mary Alice Wollam and Pat Zeider - lead the group. They come prepared with questions, book reviews and biographies of the authors. Everyone in the group talks and shares opinions.

What is the makeup of your group?

The members are adults, female and male, all ages and all backgrounds.

Do I need to read the current book before I come to my first meeting?

Not required, but you will probably enjoy the meeting more if you do. To find out the current title, check the list below, call [818-548-3749](tel:818-548-3749), or [click here](#) to email a question.

Must I register or sign up to join the Book Group?

No, just drop in. If you enjoy the experience, we hope you will return.

What were some of your best discussions?

Here are some recent titles that elicited lots of conversation and many diverse opinions. *The Other Americans* by Laila Lalami was a group favorite as there was so much to talk about--immigrants, family secrets, romance and mystery. *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* allowed the group to learn more about little known American history (the pack horse librarians during the Great Depression) and about individuals, unknown to most readers, who were discriminated against because of their skin color (the Blue People of Kentucky). Members explored the main characters in *Of Mice and Men* and the book reminded us of why certain titles are classics, meant to be read and re-read. The characters in *Little Fires Everywhere* had their supporters and their detractors. And, in the best discussions everyone offers opinions.

What books are going to be or have you already read and discussed?

2021

The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett (December)
Farewell My Lovely by Raymond Chandler (November)
American Dirt by Jeaine Cummins (October)
The Hare with the Amber Eyes: A Hidden Inheritance by Edmund de Waal (September)
Stealing Home: Los Angeles, the Dodgers and the Lives Caught In Between by Eric Nusbaum (August)
The World According to Fanny Davis by Bridgett Davis (July)
The Midnight Library by Matt Haig (June)
The Yellow House by Sarah Broom (May)
Caste: The Origins of our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson (April)
Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng (March)
The Castle on Sunset: Life, Death, Love, Art and Scandal at Hollywood's Chateau Marmont (February)
The Other Americans by Laila Lalami (January)

2020

Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Sepetys (December)
The Dutch House by Ann Patchett (November)
The Lost City of Z by David Grann (October)
The Windfall by Diksha Basu (September)
Testaments by Margaret Atwood (August)
The Bookwoman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson (July)
The Art Forger by B.A. Shapiro (June)

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck (May)
There There by Tommy Orange (March)
Born a Crime: Stories From a South African Childhood by Trevor Noah (February)
Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens (January)

2019

Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors and the Drug Company that Addicted America by
(November)
Less by Andrew Sean Greer (October)
I'll Be Gone in the Dark: One Woman's Obsessive Search for the Golden State Killer by
Michelle McNamara (September)
Becoming by Michelle Obama (August)
Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly (July)
Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women by Kate Moore (June)
The Library Book by Susan Orlean (May)
Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David
Grann (April)
Lincoln in the Bardo by George Saunders (March)
Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance (February)
News of the World by Paulette Jiles (January)

2018

Educated by Tara Westover (November)
A Gentleman of Moscow by Amor Towles (October)
Rin Tin Tin by Susan Orlean (September)
Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson (August)
A Man Named Ove by Fredrick Backman (July)
The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See (June)
Dear Miss Breed by Joanne Oppenheim (May)
Native Son--The Play Adapted from the Book by Richard Wright (April)
When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi (March)
The Tortilla Curtain by T.C. Boyle (February) One Book/One Glendale 2018
The Last Painting of Sara de Vos by Dominic Smith (January)

2017

Nightingale by Kristin Hannah (November)

West With the Wind by Beryl Markham (October)
The Body in the Library by Agatha Christie (September)
The Rise of the Rocket Girls by Nathalia Holt (August)
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith (July)
Dead Wake by Erik Larson (June)
The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood (May)
Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant by Roz Chast (April)
The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin (March)
Between the World and Me by Te-Neshis Coates (February)
Defending Jacob by William Landary (January)

2016

Bettyville by George Hodgman (November)
I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai (October)
The Art of Dreaming by Nina Revoyr (September)
The Residence: Inside the Private World of the White House by Kate Andersen Brower (August)
The Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline (July)
Deep, Down, Dark: The Untold Stories of 33 Men Buried in a Chilean Mine and the Miracle that Set Them Free by Hector Tobar (June)
The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd (May)
Being mortal: medicine and what matters in the end by Atul Gawande (April)
All the light we cannot see by Anthony Doerr (March)
Ghettoside: a true story of murder in American by Jill Leovy (February)
Empty mansions: the mysterious life of Huguette Clark and the spending of a great American fortune by Bill Dedman and Paul Clark Newell, Jr. (January)

2015

Portrait in sepia by Isabel Allende (November)
The book of unknown Americans by Cristina Henríquez (October)
Animal, vegetable, miracle by Barbara Kingsolver (September)
Light between oceans by J.L. Stedman (August)
Night circus by Erin Morgenstern (July)
Inherit the wind by Jerome Lawrence (May)
The round house by Louise Erdrich (April)
The Rosie Project by Graeme C. Simsion (March)

Rebecca by Daphne du Maurier (January)

2014

Barbarian Nurseries by Hector Tobar (January) ONE BOOK/ONE GLENDALE 2013
Where'd You Go, Bernadette by Maria Semple (February)
The Paris Wife by Paula McLain (March)
The Language of Flowers by Vanessa Diffenbaugh (April)
Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion by Father Greg Boyle (May)
Zeitoun by Dave Eggers (June)
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest by Ken Kesey (July)
The Golem and the Jinni by Helene Wecker (August)
Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Book Store by Robin Sloan (October)
The Year of Wonders by Geraldine Brooks November)
The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics (December)

2013

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson (January)
In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin by Erik Larson (February)
State of Wonder by Ann Patchett (March)
My Beloved World: A Memoir by Sonia Sotomayor (April)
The Long Embrace: Raymond Chandler and the Woman He Loved by Judith Freeman (May)
The Book Thief by Markus Zusak (June)
Unaccustomed Earth by Jhumpa Lahiri (July)
Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail by Cheryl Strayed (August)
Falling Leaves: The True Story of an Unwanted Chinese Daughter by Adeline Yen Mah (September)
Sandcastle Girls by Chris Bohjalian (October) ONE BOOK/ONE GLENDALE
Beautiful Ruins by Jess Walter (November)

2012

Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay (January)

Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World by Tracy Kidder (February)

As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner (March)

Under the Banner of Heaven by Jon Krakauer (April)

Buddha in the Attic by Julie Otsuka (May)

The Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger (June)

Swamplandia by Karen Russell (July)

No August meeting

The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration by Isabel Wilkerson (September)

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford (October)

2011

Half Broke Horses by Jeannette Walls (January)

A Reliable Wife by Robert Goolrick (February)

Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption by Laura Hillenbrand (March)

People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks (April)

Cannery Row by John Steinbeck (May)

Mennonite in a Little Black Dress by Rhoda Janzen (June)

Out Stealing Horses by Per Petterson (July)

The Piano Tuner by Daniel Mason (August)

Nothing Daunted: The Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West by Dorothy Wickenden (September)

Turn of Mind by Alice LaPlante (October) ONE BOOK/ONE GLENDALE

Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese (November)

2010

My Life In France by Julia Child and Alex Prud'homme (January)

The Elegance of the Hedgehog by Muriel Barbery (February)

Down the Nile: Alone in a Fisherman's Skiff by Rosemary Mahoney (March)

Middlesex by Jeffrey Eugenides (April)

Born Round: The Secret History of a Full-time Eater by Frank Bruni (May)

White Tiger by Aravind Adiga (June)

A Civil Action by Jonathan Harr (July)

The Help by Kathryn Stockett (August)

Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking by Malcolm Gladwell (September)
Los Angeles Noir edited by Denise Hamilton (October) ONE BOOK/ONE GLENDALE
The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot (November)
Little Bee by Chris Cleave (December)

2009

Lucky You by Carl Hiaasen (January)
In the Time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez (February)
Flu: The Story of the Great Influenza Pandemic of 1918 and the Search for the Virus
That Caused It by Gina Bari Kolata (March)
The Abstinence Teacher by Tom Perrotta (April)
Tender at the Bone: Growing Up at the Table by Ruth Reichl (May)
Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer (June)
Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West by Gregory Maguire (July)
The Jane Austen Book Club by Karen Joy Fowler (August)
The Zookeeper's Wife by Diane Ackerman (September)
Shanghai Girls by Lisa See (October) ONE BOOK/ONE GLENDALE
The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Anne Shaffer and Annie
Barrows (November)

2008

The Miracle Worker by William Gibson (January)
The Bastard of Istanbul by Elif Shafak (February)
The Lost Painting by Jonathan Harr (March)
Easter Island by Jennifer Vanderbes (April)
A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmael Beah (May)
Me Talk Pretty One Day by David Sedaris (June)
Gilead by Marilynne Robinson (July)
Eat, Pray, Love: One Woman's Search for Everything Across Italy, India, and Indonesia
by Elizabeth Gilbert (August)
General Discussion (September)
Enrique's Journey: The Story of a Boy's Dangerous Odyssey to Reunite with His Mother
by Sonia Nazario (October) ONE BOOK/ONE GLENDALE
The Call of the Wild by Jack London (November)
Lying Awake by Mark Salzman (December)

2007

January title is missing

Angels Flight by Michael Connelly (February)

The Distant Land of My Father by Bo Caldwell (March)

His Excellency: George Washington by Joseph J. Ellis (April)

The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri (May)

In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whale Ship Essex by Nathaniel Philbrick (June)

Water For Elephants by Sara Gruen (July)

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald (August)

Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin (September)

When the Emperor Was Divine by Julie Otsuka (October) ONE BOOK/ONE
GLENDALE

Prep by Chris Sittenfeld (November)

The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl by Timothy Egan (December)

2006

Lost Horizon by James Hilton (January)

In Cold Blood by Truman Capote (February)

The Glass Castle: A Memoir by Jeannette Walls (March)

Kindred by Octavia Butler (April)

Relationships Can Be Murder by Jane Dilucchio (May)

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See (June)

The Bee Season by Myla Goldberg (July)

Close Range: Wyoming Stories by Annie Proulx (August)

The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down: A Hmong Child, Her American Doctors, and the Collision of Two Cultures by Anne Fadiman (September)

The Year of Magical Thinking by Joan Didion (October)

The Giver by Lois Lowry (November)

Iron and Silk by Mark Salzman (December)

2005

Ethan Frome by Edith Wharton (January)

Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster by John Krakauer (February)

The Dogs of Babel by Carolyn Parkhurst (March)

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini (April)

Slaves in the Family by Edward Ball (May)

Stones for Ibarra by Harriet Doerr (June)

102 Minutes: The Untold Story of the Fight to Survive Inside the Twin Towers by Jim Dwyer (July)

The Quiet American by Graham Greene (August)

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon (September)

The Botany of Desire: A Plant's Eye View of the World by Michael Pollan (October)

The Birth of Venus by Sarah Dunant (November)

2004

My Antonia by Willa Cather (January)

Bel Canto by Ann Patchett (February)

One Thousand White Women: The Journals of May Dodd by Jim Fergus (March)

I'm a Stranger Here, Myself: Notes on Returning to America After 20 Years Away by Bill Bryson (April)

Maus I and Maus II by Art Spiegelman (May)

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress by Sijie Dai (June)

The Water Is Wide by Pat Conroy (July)

The Human Comedy by William Saroyan (August)

Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America by Erik Larson (September)

Stolen Lives: Twenty Years in a Desert Jail by Malika Oufkir (October)

The Things We Carried by Tim O'Brien (November)

The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency by Alexander McCall Smith (December)

2003

Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America by Barbara Ehrenreich (January)

The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother by James McBride (February)

How Reading Changed My Life by Anna Quindlen (March)

Yes, Minister by Jonathan Lynn (April)



Seabiscuit: An American Legend by Laura Hillenbrand (May)

Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal by Eric Schlosser (June)

The Soloist by Mark Salzman (July)

August title is missing

The Jasmine Trade by Denise Hamilton (September)

The Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold (October)

Dreaming: Hard Luck and Good Times in America by Carolyn See (November)

Peace Like a River by Leif Enger (December)

2002

The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck (October)

The Postman Always Rings Twice and Double Indemnity by James M. Cain (November)