

# BOOK CLUB 2019 READING LIST

6:30PM-7:30pm at the Lodi Memorial Library: [director@lodi.bccls.org](mailto:director@lodi.bccls.org) for more info

## Tuesday, January 8, 2019

### **In the Midst of Winter by Isabel Allende-352 pages**



*Isabel Allende* returns with a sweeping novel about three very different people who are brought together in a mesmerizing story that journeys from present-day Brooklyn to Guatemala in the recent past to 1970s Chile and Brazil. *In the Midst of Winter* begins with a minor traffic accident-- which becomes the catalyst for an unexpected and moving love story between two people who thought they were deep into the winter of their lives. Richard Bowmaster--a 60-year-old human rights scholar--hits the car of Evelyn Ortega--a young, undocumented immigrant from Guatemala-- in the middle of a snowstorm in Brooklyn. What at first seems just a small inconvenience takes an

unforeseen and far more serious turn when Evelyn turns up at the professor's house seeking help.

## Tuesday, February 12, 2019

### **The Great Alone by Kristin Hannah-440 pages**

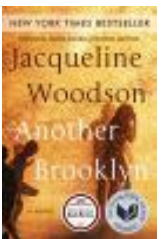


Lenora Allbright is 13 when her father convinces her mother, Cora, to forgo their inauspicious existence in Seattle and move to Kaneq, AK. It's 1974, and the former Vietnam POW sees a better future away from the noise and nightmares that plague him. Having been left a homestead by a buddy who died in the war, Ernt is secure in his beliefs, but never was a family less prepared for the reality of Alaska, the long, cold winters and isolation. Locals want to help out, especially classmate Matthew Walker, who likes everything about Leni. Yet the harsh conditions bring out the worst in Ernt, whose paranoia takes over their lives and exacerbates what Leni sees as the toxic relationship

between her parents. The Allbrights are as green as greenhorns can be, and even first love must endure unimaginable hardship and tragedy as the wilderness tries to claim more victims.

## Tuesday, March 12, 2019

### **Another Brooklyn by Jacqueline Woodson-175 pages**



For August, running into a long-ago friend sets in motion resonant memories and transports her to a time and a place she thought she had mislaid: 1970s *Brooklyn*, where friendship was everything. August, Sylvia, Angela, and Gigi shared confidences as they ambled their neighborhood streets, a place where the girls believed that they were amazingly beautiful, brilliantly talented, with a future that belonged to them. But beneath the hopeful promise there was *another Brooklyn*, a dangerous place where grown men reached for innocent girls in dark hallways, where mothers disappeared, where fathers found religion, and where madness was a mere sunset

away. *Woodson* heartbreakingly illuminates the formative period when a child meets adulthood -- when precious innocence meets the all-too-real perils of growing up.

## Tuesday, April 9, 2019

### **Victoria by Daisy Goodwin-384 pages**

Drawing on Queen Victoria's diaries, which she first started reading when she was a student at Cambridge University, Daisy Goodwin—creator and writer of the new PBS Masterpiece drama *Victoria* and author of the bestselling novels *The American Heiress* and *The Fortune Hunter*—brings the young nineteenth-century monarch, who would go on to reign for 63 years, richly to life in this magnificent novel.

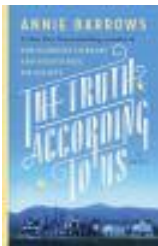


On June 19th, 1837, she was a teenager. On June 20th, 1837, she was a queen. Daisy Goodwin's impeccably researched and vividly imagined new book brings readers Queen Victoria as they have never seen her before.

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## Tuesday, May 14, 2019

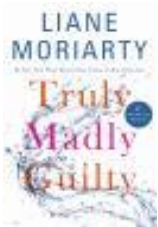


### **The Truth According to Us by Annie Barrows-512 pages**

From the co-author of *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* comes a wise, witty, and exuberant novel, perfect for fans of Lee Smith, that illuminates the power of loyalty and forgiveness, memory and truth, and the courage it takes to do what's right.

Annie Barrows once again evokes the charm and eccentricity of a small town filled with extraordinary characters. Her new novel, *The Truth According to Us*, brings to life an inquisitive young girl, her beloved aunt, and the alluring visitor who changes the course of their destiny forever.

## Tuesday, June 11, 2019



### **Truly Madly Guilty by Liane Moriarty-416 pages**

Sam and Clementine have a wonderful, albeit busy, life: they have two little girls, Sam has just started a new dream job, and Clementine, a cellist, is busy preparing for the audition of a lifetime. If there's anything they can count on, it's each other.

In *Truly Madly Guilty*, Liane Moriarty takes on the foundations of our lives: marriage, sex, parenthood, and friendship. She shows how guilt can expose the fault lines in the most seemingly strong relationships, how what we don't say can be more powerful than what we do, and how sometimes it is the most innocent of moments that can do the greatest harm.

## Tuesday, July 9, 2019



### **The Nest by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney-368 pages**

Instant *New York Times* Bestseller; named a Best Book of 2016 by *People*, the *Washington Post*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Refinery29*, NPR and LibraryReads.

This is a story about the power of family, the possibilities of friendship, the ways we depend upon one another and the ways we let one another down. In this tender, entertaining, and deftly written debut, Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney brings a remarkable cast of characters to life to illuminate what money does to relationships, what happens to our ambitions over the course of time, and the fraught yet unbreakable ties we share with those we love.

## Tuesday, August 13, 2019



### **America's First Daughter by Stephanie Dray -624 pages**

In a compelling, richly researched novel that draws from thousands of letters and original sources, bestselling authors Stephanie Dray and Laura Kamoie tell the fascinating, untold story of Thomas Jefferson's eldest daughter, Martha "Patsy" Jefferson Randolph—a woman who kept the secrets of our most enigmatic founding father and shaped an American legacy. From her earliest days, Patsy Jefferson knows that though her father loves his family dearly, his devotion to his country runs deeper still. As Thomas Jefferson's oldest daughter, she becomes his helpmate, protector, and constant companion in the wake of her mother's death, traveling with him when he becomes

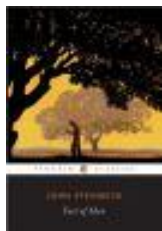
American minister to France. It is in Paris, at the glittering court and among the first tumultuous days of revolution, that fifteen-year-old Patsy learns about her father's troubling liaison with Sally Hemings, a slave girl her own age. Meanwhile, Patsy has fallen in love—

with her father's protégé William Short, a staunch abolitionist and ambitious diplomat. Torn between love, principles, and the bonds of family, Patsy questions whether she can choose a life as William's wife and still be a devoted daughter. Her choice will follow her in the years to come, to Virginia farmland, Monticello, and even the White House. And as scandal, tragedy, and poverty threaten her family, Patsy must decide how much she will sacrifice to protect her father's reputation, in the process defining not just his political legacy, but that of the nation he founded.

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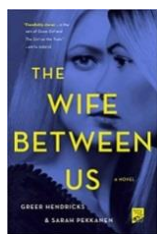
## Tuesday, September 10, 2019



### **East of Eden by John Steinbeck-601 pages**

A masterpiece of Biblical scope, and the magnum opus of one of America's most enduring authors. In his journal, Nobel Prize winner John Steinbeck called East of Eden "the first book," and indeed it has the primordial power and simplicity of myth. Set in the rich farmland of California's Salinas Valley, this sprawling and often brutal novel follows the intertwined destinies of two families--the Trasks and the Hamiltons--whose generations helplessly reenact the fall of Adam and Eve and the poisonous rivalry of Cain and Abel.

## Tuesday, October 8, 2019



### **The Wife Between Us by Greer Hendricks-352 pages**

When you read this book, you will make many assumptions.

You will assume you are reading about a jealous ex-wife.

You will assume she is obsessed with her replacement – a beautiful, younger woman who is about to marry the man they both love.

You will assume you know the anatomy of this tangled love triangle.

Assume nothing.

Twisted and deliciously chilling, Greer Hendricks and Sarah Pekkanen's *The Wife Between Us* exposes the secret complexities of an enviable marriage - and the dangerous truths we ignore in the name of love.

*Read between the lies.*

## Tuesday, November 12, 2019



### **White Chrysanthemum by Mary Lynn Bracht-320 pages**

*Korea, 1943.* Hana has lived her entire life under Japanese occupation. As a *haenyeo*, a female diver of the sea, she enjoys an independence that few other Koreans can still claim. Until the day Hana saves her younger sister from a Japanese soldier and is herself captured and transported to Manchuria. There she is forced to become a "comfort woman" in a Japanese military brothel. But *haenyeo* are women of power and strength. She will find her way home.

*South Korea, 2011.* Emi has spent more than sixty years trying to forget the sacrifice her sister made, but she must confront the past to discover peace. Seeing the healing of her children and her country,

can Emi move beyond the legacy of war to find forgiveness?

Suspenseful, hopeful, and ultimately redemptive, *White Chrysanthemum* tells a story of two sisters whose love for each other is strong enough to triumph over the grim evils of war.

## Tuesday, December 10, 2019



### **The Woman in the Window by A.J. Finn-448 pages**

Anna Fox lives alone—a recluse in her New York City home, unable to venture outside. She spends her day drinking wine (maybe too much), watching old movies, recalling happier times . . . and spying on her neighbors.

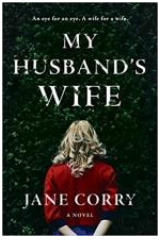
Then the Russells move into the house across the way: a father, a mother, their teenage son. The perfect family. But when Anna, gazing out her window one night, sees something she shouldn't, her world begins to crumble—and its shocking secrets are laid bare.

What is real? What is imagined? Who is in danger? Who is in control? In this diabolically gripping thriller, no one—and nothing—is what it seems.

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**Tuesday, January 14, 2020**



**My Husband's Wife by Jane Corry-384 pages**

When young lawyer Lily marries Ed, she's determined to make a fresh start and leave the secrets of the past behind. But then she takes on her first murder case and meets Joe, a convicted murderer to whom Lily is strangely drawn—and for whom she will soon be willing to risk almost anything.

But Lily is not the only one with secrets. Her next-door neighbor Carla may be only nine, but she has already learned that secrets are powerful things. That they can get her whatever she wants.

When Lily finds Carla on her doorstep twelve years later, a chain of events is set in motion that can end only one way.