

**Jan. 15** *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood — This now classic novel is set in the dystopian near future in the Republic of Gilead (formerly the USA). In Gilead, women's rights are vastly restricted, and women are only valued as long as they are viable for reproduction.

**Feb. 19** *Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly — During World War II Polish teenager Kasia Kuzmerick's decision to join the Resistance movement results in her being exiled to a brutal Nazi concentration camp. There she comes in contact with Herta Oberhauser, a young, ambitious Nazi doctor who conducts "experiments" on prisoners. Meanwhile, American socialite Caroline Ferriday spends the war sending relief overseas while experiencing the pain of a tortured love affair.

**March 19** *My Sunshine Away* by M. O. Walsh — In seemingly idyllic 1980s Woodland Hills, a suburb of Baton Rouge, 15-year-old Lindy Simpson is raped just yards from her home. The unnamed narrator is a friend and neighbor of Lindy whose unrequited love for her drives him to search for the person who committed the crime.

**April 16** *Need to Know* by Karen Cleveland — What would you do if you found out that your entire life, including your spouse, your children, and your career, might be part of an orchestrated effort on the part of the Russian government to infiltrate the CIA? That's the dilemma faced by this novel's main character, Vivian Miller, a CIA analyst.

**May 21** *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah — From bestselling author Hannah comes the engrossing and emotional tale of two sisters, Viann and Isabelle Mauriac, who each find a way to contribute to the fight against the Nazis in occupied France during WWII.

**June 18** *A Painted House* by John Grisham — Bestselling author Grisham steps away from tales of high-powered lawyers and tense courtrooms to tell a coming of age tale from 1950s rural Arkansas. Through the eyes of seven-year-old Lucas Chandler, readers get a glimpse of harvest season in his community, and the joys and conflicts it entails.

**July 16** *Truly Madly Guilty* by Liane Moriarty — In this 2016 novel, bestselling author Moriarty explores the social and psychological repercussions of a barbecue get together gone terribly awry. What happened emerges slowly through glimpses of characters coping—or not coping—weeks after the event intercut with an unfolding chronicle of the actual barbecue day.

**Aug. 20** *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel Brown — The truly All-American story of the 1936 men's U.S. Olympic rowing team and their battle for gold at Hitler's Berlin games. Filled with interesting and inspiring profiles of the team, informative discussions of rowing technique and exciting come-from-behind race scenes, readers will cheer for this determined group of athletes.

**Sept. 17** *Evicted* by Matthew Desmond — The reader is taken into the poorest neighborhoods of Milwaukee to experience the stories of eight different families on the edge. The book examines the issue of the urban poor who pay more than half of their income just on rent, and how this affects both them and their community.

**Oct. 15** *The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid* by Bill Bryson — Bryson, bestselling author of *A Walk in the Woods* and *I'm a Stranger Here Myself*, hilariously chronicles his childhood in 1950s Iowa with fun and nostalgic memories of the days of Sky King, TV dinners, X-ray Spex, Sputnik and Dr. Kildare.

**Nov. 19** *Our Souls at Night* by Kent Haruf — To stave off loneliness, widow Addie Moore asks Louis, her neighbor of 40 years and widower of her friend, Diane, to begin spending the night at her home. Although their arrangement is chaste, it does cause gossip in their small town of Holt, Colorado.

**Dec. 17** *The Story of Arthur Truluv* by Elizabeth Berg — Lurching daily at the cemetery so that he can engage his late wife in imaginary conversation, Arthur meets troubled teen Maddy, who's avoiding school. Their friendship helps them both — and eventually they form a new kind of family with Arthur's neighbor, Lucille.

## The Tuesday Afternoon Group "The Brown Baggers"

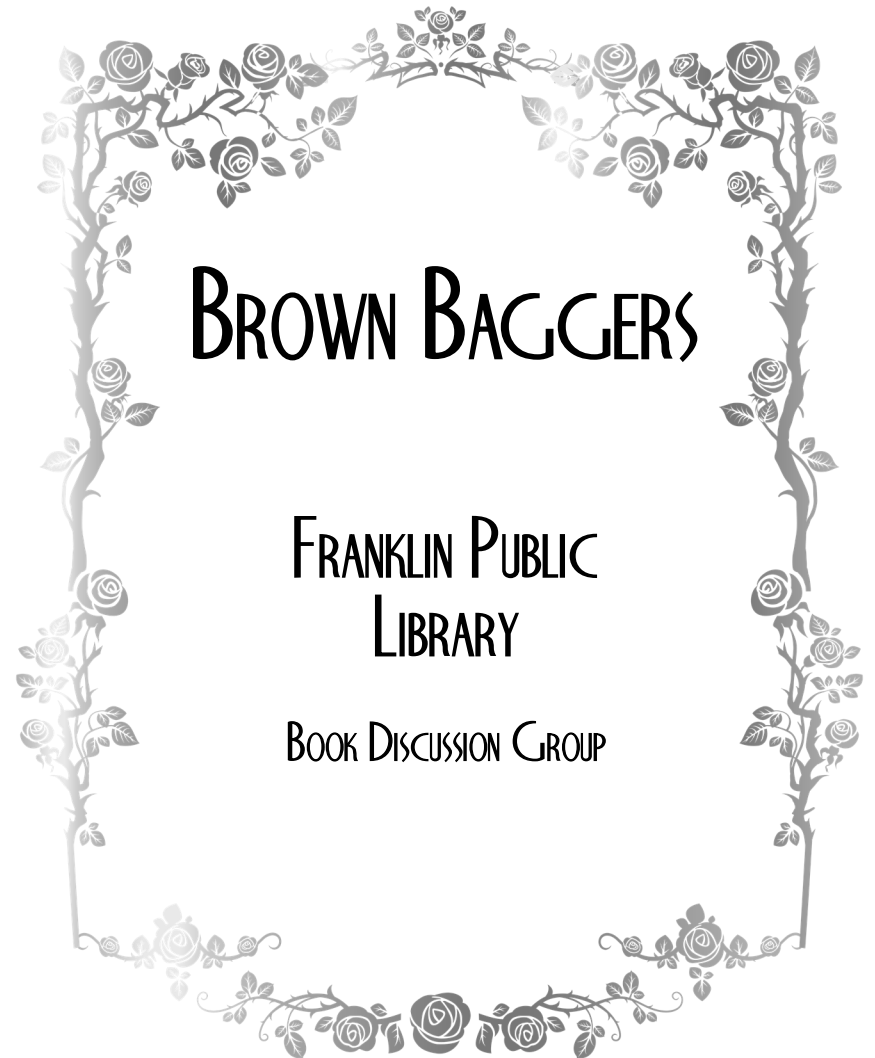
- ◆ Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month (except where noted) at 12:30 p.m.
- ◆ Leader: Peer-led discussions

**The Brown Baggers meetings are free and open to the public, no registration or reservation is needed.**

**Bring your own lunch. Beverages are provided.**

**To get a copy of the book being discussed:** Pick up a copy at the checkout desk. Library copies will be reserved in advance. Another option is to purchase a copy at area bookstores. These titles may also be available as e-books through 3M Cloud Library or Overdrive (please ask a librarian if you need help accessing electronic versions of these titles).

**Cancellations due to weather:** The Brown Baggers book discussion group meetings will be cancelled if the library closes or if the leader of the group notifies the library that the group will not meet due to weather conditions.



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## 2019 SCHEDULE