2021 The Brown Baggers 3rd Tuesdays 12:30 p.m. on Zoom.\*\*

Jan. 19 *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* by Heather Morris — In April 1942, Lale Sokolov, a Slovakian Jew, is forcibly transported to the concentration camps at Auschwitz-Birkenau. When his captors discover that he speaks several languages, he is put to work as a tattooist, tasked with permanently marking his fellow prisoners.

Feb. 16 Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng — Fighting an ugly custody battle with an artistic tenant who has little regard for the strict rules of their progressive Cleveland suburb, a straitlaced family woman who is seeking to adopt a baby becomes obsessed with exposing the tenant's past, only to trigger devastating consequences for both of their families.

March 16 Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens — For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. She's barefoot and wild; unfit for polite society. So, in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark.

April 20 *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean — When popular nonfiction author Orlean first visited Los Angeles' Central Library, she was "transfixed." Then she learned about the 1986 fire there, which many believed was deliberately set, and which destroyed or damaged more than one million books and shut the library down for seven years.

May 18 Beneath a Scarlet Sky by Mark T. Sullivan — A teenage boy in 1940s Italy becomes part of an underground railroad that helps Jews escape through the Alps. After being enlisted in the German army by his parents, he is recruited to be the personal driver for a powerful Third Reich commander, and begins to spy for the Allies.

June 15 A Piece of the World by Christina Baker Kline — From the author of the bestseller Orphan Train, comes an imagining of the life story of Christina Olson, the subject of Andrew Wyeth's famous painting Christina's World. Interweaving fact and fiction, she creates a story of Christina's life on a remote Maine farm, her complicated family life and the illness that incapacitated her.

July 20 Evvie Drake Starts Over by Linda Holmes — In a small town in Maine, recently widowed Eveleth "Evvie" Drake rarely leaves her house. Everyone in town, including her best friend, Andy, thinks grief keeps her locked inside. When Andy's friend Dean, a former pro baseball player struggling with a case of the "yips" moves into an apartment in the back of Evvie's house, they form an unexpected friendship which may even develop into something more.

Aug. 17 Today Will Be Different by Maria Semple — In her follow-up to the bestselling Where'd You Go, Bernadette?, the author chronicles a comic day in the life of a former groundbreaking animator. Eleanor deals with her young son who is trying to fake sick to come home from school, and her husband, who unbeknownst to her, is on vacation (according to his office). She also runs into an old colleague who causes her to recall some unpleasant memories of her childhood, ensuring today will be different — and important.

Sept. 21 *The Second Mrs. Hockaday* by Susan Rivers — Only two days after marrying 17-year-old Placidia Fincher, Maj. Gryffith Hockaday is called to return to service in the Civil War for the Confederate Army, leaving her to take care of his South Carolina farm and young son. When he returns two years later, he finds Placidia bound for jail, having been accused of having borne a child during his absence and murdering it.

Oct. 19 Heroes of the Frontier by Dave Eggers — Josie and her children's father have split up, and she's lost her dental practice due to a lawsuit. When her ex asks to take their children to meet his new fiancée's family, Josie makes a run for it to Alaska with the kids in a rented RV. But as they drive, Josie must deal with the danger of the wilderness and wildfires, as well as her increasingly fragile emotional state.

Nov. 16\* The Lost City of the Monkey God by Douglas Preston — Bestselling novelist Preston (co-author with Lincoln Child of the popular Pendergast thrillers), travels with an expedition to the uncharted wilderness of Honduras to find the ruins of a legendary lost city.

**Dec. 14\*** Ask Again Yes by Mary Beth Keene — When Brian Stanhope and Francis Gleeson meet in 1973, they become quick, close-knit friends as rookie cops in a tough New York precinct. Later as suburban neighbors, Francis's youngest daughter, Kate, and Brian's only son, Peter, become fast friends, but tensions between the two families eventually flare into violence fueled by alcoholism and untreated mental illness.

<sup>\*</sup> Indicates meeting date other than the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

<sup>\*\*</sup>For more information, or to get a Zoom invitation for the Night Readers meetings, stop in at the library, or call 414-425-8214.

## 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
- Meetings will be held on the **Zoom** teleconferencing platform until further notice. Contact the library for more information and to get on the mailing list for the Zoom invitations.

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 Libby (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.





## Franklin Public Library

## **Brown Baggers**Book Discussion



2021 Schedule