

**2024 The Brown Baggers 3rd Tuesdays 12:30 p.m.**

**Jan. 16 *Good Night, Irene* by Luis Alberto Urrea** — Abandoning her abusive fiancé in New York in 1943 to enlist with the Red Cross and head to Europe, Irene Woodward befriends Dorothy Dunford as they join the Allied soldiers streaming into France after D-Day. There, they are embroiled in danger, from the Battle of the Bulge to the liberation of Buchenwald, and it is also there Irene learns to trust again through their friendship.

**Feb. 20 *Spare* by Prince Harry** — This memoir from Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex, is a frank look inside the royal family of the United Kingdom. Beginning with his struggle coming to terms with the death of his mother, Princess Diana, he recounts the restrictions of royal life, the effects of press harassment, and his strained relationship with his brother and father.

**March 19 *The Maidens* by Alex Michaelides** — Mariano Andros, a brilliant but troubled therapist, is convinced that popular and beloved Cambridge University literature professor Edward Fosca is a murderer. When a member of a secret society of female students is killed, Mariana is sure that despite his alibi, Fosca is the guilty party.

**April 16 *Our Missing Hearts* by Celeste Ng** — From the number one bestselling author of *Little Fires Everywhere* comes the story of 12-year-old Bird Gardner, who lives a quiet existence with his loving but broken father, a former linguist who now shelves books in Harvard University's library. For a decade, their lives, like those of their other fellow American citizens, have been governed by laws written to preserve 'American culture' in the wake of years of economic instability and violence.

**May 21 *I'm Glad My Mom Died* by Jennette McCurdy** — Co-star of the massively popular classic Nickelodeon TV series *iCarly*, the author recounts her struggles behind the scenes with her perfectionist stage mother. She describes the hoops she jumped through to survive in her own household, where she suffered psychological and physical abuse, and coercion into disordered eating and addiction issues. McCurdy also chronicles her hard-won success on her journey to recovery.

**June 18 *Magpie Murders* by Anthony Horowitz** — When editor Susan Ryeland is given the manuscript of Alan Conway's latest novel, she has no reason to think it will be much different from any of his others. But the more Susan reads, the more she's convinced that there is another story hidden in the pages of the manuscript: one of real-life jealousy, greed, ruthless ambition, and murder.

**July 16 *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger** — Looking back at a tragic event that occurred when he was 13, Frank Drum explores how a complicated web of secrets, adultery, and betrayal shattered his Methodist family and their small 1961 Minnesota community.

**Aug. 20 *Mad Honey* by Jodi Picoult & Jennifer Finney Boylan** — *Mad Honey*, co-authored by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan tells a riveting coming-of-age tale that explores gender identity, friendship and self-acceptance, and navigates the delicate balance between conformity and individuality.

**Sept. 17 *The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich** — A small independent bookstore in Minneapolis is haunted from November 2019 to November 2020 by the ghost of the store's most annoying customer. Flora dies on All Souls' Day, but she simply won't leave the store. Store employee Tookie must solve the mystery of this haunting while at the same time trying to understand all that occurs in Minneapolis during that time period, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and the murder of George Floyd and its aftermath.

**Oct. 15 *Mexican Gothic* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia** — In this gothic horror tale set in Mexico in the 1950s, 22-year-old spunky socialite Noemi Taboada gets a desperate letter from her newlywed cousin, Catalina, asking for her help. Catalina is now bedridden with a mysterious ailment, and Noemi is charged by her family with the mission of going to help her cousin. To do so, she must travel to the creepy, remote villa in which Catalina and her husband now live.

**Nov. 12\* *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis** — Several generations of the Lyons family contribute to the history (and mysteries) of the New York Public Library. In 1913, when prized first edition books start going missing from the central library of NYPL, building superintendent Jack Lyons becomes a suspect in the thefts. Eighty years later, his granddaughter Sadie Donovan, a library administrator and curator of the rare books collection, is working on an exhibit when valuable manuscripts again begin to disappear, jeopardizing Sadie's job and reputation.

**Dec. 10\* *The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson** — This classic bestseller by acclaimed author Larson tells the true story of the triumph and tragedy of the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. and the tale of two men: Daniel H. Burnham, the brilliant architect and urban designer who created the magnificent "White City" for the grounds of the exposition, and H. H. Holmes, a diabolical serial killer who preys on the influx of people coming to Chicago for the fair.

\* Indicates meeting date other than the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

\*\*\* Books selected are subject to change based upon availability. \*\*\*

## 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 the Hoopla or Libby apps (please ask a librarian if you need help accessing electronic versions of these titles).

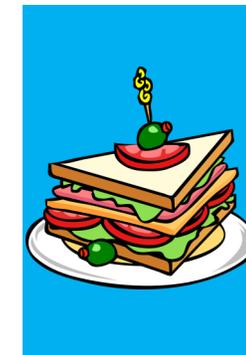
**Cancellations due to weather:** The Brown Baggers book discussion group meetings will be cancelled if the library closes, or if the leader of the group notifies the library that the group will not meet due to weather conditions.



# BROWN BAGGERS

## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

### 2024 SCHEDULE



# FRANKLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY



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