

2022 Night Readers — 4th Mondays at 6 p.m.

Jan. 24* *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah — A Depression-era woman confronts a wrenching choice between fighting for the Dust Bowl-ravaged land she loves in Texas or pursuing an uncertain future in California. From the author of *The Nightingale* and *The Great Alone*, the novel is a testament to the strength of the human spirit to survive adversity.

Feb. 28 *The Testament* by John Grisham — After finishing his fourth stint in rehab in 10 years, high-powered D. C. attorney Nate O'Reilly is tasked by his law firm to track down the illegitimate daughter of a recently deceased billionaire client. He must travel to the jungles of Brazil where she is serving as a missionary and physician.

March 28 *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover — Westover recounts her upbringing with six siblings on an Idaho farm. The family is dominated by her father, a devout Mormon with a paranoid streak who tried to live off the grid with no outside schooling, no doctor visits and a stockpile of supplies and guns for the end-times. She eventually began her formal academic career by enrolling at Brigham Young University and later earned a master's degree and a doctorate from Cambridge University.

April 25* *Home* by Marilynne Robinson — In a companion piece to her Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *Gilead*, the author tells the story of Glory Boughton, who returns to her small Iowa hometown to take care of her elderly, dying father, a former Presbyterian minister. Also returning to town is Glory's brother Jack, the family's bad boy prodigal son who seeks to mend fences with this father.

May 23 *The Princess Bride* by William Goldman — In this well-loved tale of high adventure, true love and delicious revenge, readers follow the exploits of a brave and handsome farm boy, a charismatic swordsman, a gentle giant, an evil mastermind, an even more evil prince, a dreaded and swashbuckling pirate, and a beautiful princess-to-be, Buttercup.

June 27 *The Paying Guests* by Sarah Waters — It is 1922, and London is tense. Ex-servicemen are disillusioned, the out-of-work and the hungry are demanding change. And in South London, in a large silent house now bereft of brothers, husband and even servants, life is about to be transformed, as impoverished widow Mrs. Wray and her unmarried daughter, Frances, are obliged to take in lodgers to make ends meet.

* Potluck — participants are invited to bring a dish to pass

July 25* *The Good Earth* by Pearl S. Buck — Pearl Buck's classic novel tells a tale set in 1920s China, a time when the last emperor still ruled and many of the sweeping changes of the 20th century were still on the horizon. Readers meet the farmer Wang Lung and his family as they struggle to survive during the great political and social turmoil taking place in their country.

Aug. 22 *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett — Separated by their embrace of different racial identities, two mixed-race identical twins reevaluate their choices as one raises a Black daughter in their Southern hometown while the other passes for White with a husband who is unaware of her heritage.

Sept. 26 *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles — Deemed unrepentant by a Bolshevik tribunal in 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is sentenced to house arrest in a hotel across the street from the Kremlin, where he lives in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history unfold.

Oct. 24* *The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict — Mitza Maric has always been a little different from other girls. Most twenty-year-olds are wives by now, not studying physics at an elite Zurich university with only male students trying to outdo her clever calculations. When fellow student Albert Einstein takes an interest in her, the world turns sideways. Theirs becomes a partnership of the mind and of the heart, but there might not be room for more than one genius in a marriage.

Nov. 14*** *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng — When the eccentric and itinerant artist Mia Warren and her 15-year-old daughter, Pearl, move into a rental house in the orderly and wealthy community of Shaker Heights, Ohio, one summer, neither they nor their more conventional and affluent landlords, the Richardsons, have any reason to anticipate how dangerously enmeshed the two families will become.

Dec. 12*** *A Raft of Stars* by Andrew J. Graff — When 10-year-old Fischer Branson comes to rural Claypot, Wisconsin, to stay on his grandfather's farm for the summer, he and local boy Dale Breadwin become fast friends. During a violent confrontation, "Fish" and "Bread" think they have killed Bread's abusive father, and they light out for the woods believing they have committed an accidental murder. Will their loved ones be able to track them down before they fall victim to the unforgiving wilderness to which they've stolen away?

*** Meeting on date other than 4th Monday of the month

The Monday Evening Group “The Night Readers”

- ◆ Meets the 4th Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m., January through December, except where noted.
- ◆ Leader: Peer-led discussions

The Night Readers meetings are free and open to the public, no registration or reservation is needed.

The Night Readers invite participants to bring their own dinners to the meetings, if they choose, to eat during the discussion. Several meetings throughout the year are designated as “potluck” in which participants are invited to bring a dish to pass. Beverages are provided at each meeting.

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

Cancellations due to weather: The Night Readers 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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