



BOOKED FOR THE EVENING

The “*Booked for the Evening*” book discussion group began March 1999. One hundred and eighteen books later we are still reading, discussing, laughing, disagreeing and sharing our favorite titles and authors.

Our selections included fiction, mysteries, science fiction, short stories, biographies, non-fiction, memoirs, “bodice-busters,” historical fiction and young adult books. We’ve been to England, Afghanistan, China, the Dominican Republic, Wales, an unnamed country in South America, Japan, Colombia, the Antarctic, Scotland, a train traveling between Paris and Istanbul, the Netherlands, the Democratic Republic of Congo, India, the oceans of the world, South Africa, the Philippines, Germany, Asia Minor, Australia, France, Spain and Canada. We’ve explored both the past and the future. Many times the books that we disliked the most initiated the most discussion.

Please join us for interesting and lively discussions of books and help us choose upcoming titles. For more information contact Paul Konkolesky, 586-445-5407.

List of Discussion Titles March 1999 – June 2009

1999

March (First Meeting) *Message in a Bottle*, Nicholas Sparks
March (Second Meeting) *What Looks Like Crazy on an Ordinary Day*, Pearl Cleage
May *Deep End of the Ocean*, Jacquelyn Mitchard
June *Along Came a Spider*, James Patterson
July *As I Lay Dying*, William Faulkner
August *Angela's Ashes*, Frank McCourt
September *Memoirs of a Geisha*, Arthur Golden
October *The Mirror*, Lynn Freed
November *The Reader*, Bernhard Schlink
December *A Prayer for Owen Meany*, John Irving

2000

January Reader's Choice
February *One for the Money*, Janet Evanovich
March *Weight of Water*, Anita Shreve
April *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee
May *The Honk and Holler Opening Soon*, Billie Letts
June *The Persian Pickle Club*, Sandra Dallas
July *The Virgin Suicides*, Jeffrey Eugenides
August *The Custom of the County*, Edith Wharton
September *Cider House Rules*, John Irving
October Detroit Women Writers – Discussion
November *The Friendship Cake*, Lynne Hinton
December *The Thanksgiving Visitor*, *A Christmas Memory*, Truman Capote

2001

January *A Room of One's Own*, Virginia Wolff
February *Love in the Time of Cholera*, Gabriel Garcia Marquez
March *The Virtuous Woman*, Kaye Gibbons
April *House of Sand and Fog*, Andre Dubus
May *Solstice*, Joyce Carol Oates
June *My Antonia*, Willa Cather
July *A Patchwork Planet*, Anne Tyler
August *Icebound*, Dr. Jerri Nielsen

September *The Cater Street Hangman*, Ann Perry
October *Portrait of a Lady*, Henry James
November *The Awakening*, Kate Chopin
December *Dying for Chocolate*, Diane Mott Davidson

2002

January *Murder on the Orient Express*, Agatha Christie
February *Girl with a Pearl Earring*, Tracy Chevalier
March *The Poisonwood Bible*, Barbara Kingsolver
April *Open House*, Elizabeth Berg
May *I Know This Much is True*, Wally Lamb
June *Sister of My Heart*, Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
July *Snow in August*, Pete Hamill (2002 One Book One Community selection)

August *Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant*, Anne Tyler
September *East of Eden*, John Steinbeck
October *The Lighthouse Keeper*, James Michael Pratt
November *The Stone Diaries*, Carol Shields
December *Skipping Christmas*, John Grisham

2003

January *The Secret Life of Bees*, Sue Monk Kidd
February *Pillars of the Earth*, Ken Follett
March *Lady Chatterly's Lover*, D.H. Laurence
April *The Hours*, Michael Cunningham
May *Daughter of Time*, Josephine Tey
June *Ballad of Frankie Silver*, Sharyn McCrumb (2003 One Book One Community selection)

July *My cousin Rachael*, Daphne DuMaurier
August *Brave New World*, Aldous Huxley
September *Moo*, Jane Smiley
October *Montana 1948*, Larry Watson
November *84 Charring Cross Road*, Helene Hanff
December *Of Mice and Men*, John Steinbeck

2004

January Reader's Choice
February *One Thousand White Women: The Journals of May Dodd*, Larry Watson

March *Cry the Beloved Country*, Ellen Paton
April *Ghost Soldiers*, Hampton Sides
May *Last of the Mohicans*, James Fenimore Cooper
June *Second Hand*, Michael Zadorian (2004 One Book One Community selection)

July *Holes*, Louis Sachar
August *Seabiscuit*, Laura Hillenbrand
September *The Doll Maker*, Harriett Arnow
October *The Sound and the Fury*, William Faulkner
November *The Bonesetter's Daughter*, Amy Tan
December *Whose Body?*, Dorothy Sayers

2005

January *Same Time Next Year*, Doris Kearns Goodwin
February *Bel Canto*, Ann Patchett
March *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, Mark Haddon (2005 One Book One Community selection)

April *Rebecca*, Daphne DuMaurier
May *In the Time of Butterflies*, Julia Alvarez
June *Ethan Frome*, Edith Wharton
July *Rosehaven*, Catherine Coulter
August *Hello, Darkness*, Sandra Brown
September *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Oscar Wilde
October *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury
November *Life and Death in Shanghai*, Nien Cheng
December *The Sea Wolf*, Jack London

2006

January *Heart of Darkness*, Joseph Conrad
February *Shadow Divers*, Robert Kurson (2006 Everyone's Reading selection)

March *Kite Runner*, Khaled Hosseini
April *Middlesex*, Jeffrey Eugenides
May *Longitude*, Dava Sobel
June *The Mermaid Chair*, Sue Monk Kidd
July *The Other Boleyn Girl*, Philippa Gregory
August *The Color of Water*, James McBride
September *Homeless Bird*, Gloria Whelan
October *The Devil in the White City*, Erik Larson
November *Anatomy of a Murder*, Robert Traver
December *Under the Banner of Heaven*, Jon Krakauer

2007

January *Road from Coorain*, Jill Conway
February *Arc of Justice, A Saga of Race, Civil Rights and Murder in the Jazz Age*, Kevin Boyle
(2007 Everyone's Reading selection)
March *Friends, Lovers, Chocolate*, Alexander McCall Smith
April *An Inconvenient Wife*, Megan Chance
May *Bleak House*, Charles Dickens
June *The March*, E.L. Doctorow
July *The Buccaneers*, Edith Wharton
August *The Sun Also Rises*, Ernest Hemingway
September *Isaac's Storm*, Erik Larson
October *In the Lake of the Woods*, Tim O'Brien
November *The Lone Star Rangers*, Zane Grey
December *The Christmas Train*, David Baldacci

2008

January *The Mayor of Casterbridge*, Thomas Hardy
February *Them*, Joyce Carol Oates
March *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, Lisa See
April *Water for Elephants*, Sara Gruen
May *The Nick Adams Stories*, Ernest Hemingway
(State-wide selection for the "Great Michigan Read")
June *The Alchemist*, Paulo Coelho
July *The Welsh Girl*, Peter Ho Davies
August *Manhunt: The Twelve-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer*, James L. Swanson
September *Larry's Party*, Carol Shields
October *A Cold Day in Paradise*, Steve Hamilton
November *Thunderstruck*, Eric Larson
December *A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian*, Marina Lewycka

2009

January *Travels with Charley: In Search of America*, John Steinbeck

February *The Worst Hard Time: the Untold Story of those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl*, Timothy Egan

March *Hannah's Dream*, Diane Hammond
10th Anniversary Celebration!

April *Widow's War*, Sally Gunning

May *The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey*, Candice Millard

June *Blood and Thunder: The Epic Story of Kit Carson and the Conquest of the American West*, Hampton Sides

July *The Union Club Mysteries*, Isaac Asimov

August *The Ghost Map: the Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic and How it Changed Science, Cities and the Modern World*, Steven Johnson

September *The Book Thief*, Markus Zusak

October *Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen (One Book, One Community title)

November *Michigan: A Bicentennial History*, Bruce Catton

December *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*, David Wroblewski

2010

January *Flowers for Algernon*, Daniel Keyes

February *Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West*, Stephen Ambrose

March *Stealing Buddha's Dinner*, Bich Minh Nguyen (Great Michigan Read title)

April *Angle of Repose*, Wallace Stegner

May *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society*, Mary Ann Shaffer

June *The Geography of Bliss: One Grump's Search for the Happiest Places in the World*, Eric Weiner

July *Notes from a Small Island*, Bill Bryson

August *Things Fall Apart*, Chinua Achebe