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[Women's National Book Association \(WNBA\)](#)

Submissions Are Now Open for 2021 Great Group Reads

The Women's National Book Association invites publishers to submit books for consideration for the 2021 Great Group Reads program by April 16, 2021

NEW YORK — February 9, 2021 — Publishers may now submit books for consideration in the 2021 Great Group Reads program. Since its creation in 2009 by the [Women's National Book Association](#), Great Group Reads (GGR) has become a highly regarded and anticipated resource for reading groups, individual facilitators, educators, bookstores and libraries to recommend books. Submissions must be submitted to Kristen Knox, GGR chair, on or before Friday, April 16, 2021.

Between February and July of each year, the GGR selection committee reads the books submitted by publishers and picks 20 books of literary merit that encourage conversation and reflection about timely and provocative topics. Books from last year's list addressed issues such as family dynamics, illness, immigration, LGBTQ rights, racism, war, faith and social justice. The books illuminate the human experience and allow readers to explore social issues and personal relationships.

"Prior to GGR, I read avidly but not widely, sticking to a steady diet of the same sorts of books, mostly because I believed I 'knew what I liked.' GGR catapulted me out of my comfort zone and into a more stimulating world of reading options. Because of GGR, I now read whatever gets sent to my TBR pile, books that look and sound different than what I might normally gravitate toward, and that's a good thing! The sense of discovery is a nice surprise," said Pamela Milam, GGR coordinator.

The selection committee makes a conscious effort to focus its attention on under-represented books from independent presses and lesser-known or mid-list releases from larger houses. GGR helps selected titles and their authors gain wider exposure and, potentially, sales.

Nancy Jensen, author of 2020 Great Group Reads selection *In Our Midst*, said, "I love talking with reading groups, so perhaps the greatest thrill of having *In Our Midst* included on this list is that more reading groups will have a chance to discover the book and possibly choose it for discussion."

Preliminary submission guidelines:

- Publishers may submit literary fiction, including novels, novellas, short stories, and memoir, including essay collections. Books in translation are eligible.
- Books must be published in the U.S. between October 1, 2020 and September 30, 2021

- Titles must be submitted by publishers, be limited to two titles per publisher or imprint and be readily available through customary distribution channels
- All formats — except original e-books — are eligible, including trade-paper reprints published within the designated time frame
- Please do not submit previously submitted titles, previously selected authors or self-published books

Submissions must be made on or before Friday, April 16, 2021. The selection committee's reading period will begin in February and end in July. Final decisions will be made in late July. The formal announcement will be made to media outlets in September.

Publishers should submit titles to Kristen Knox, Great Group Reads chair, via email at ggr@wnba-books.org (subject line: Great Group Reads 2021). Please include suggested titles and a brief description of each title.

More information about the [2020 Great Group Reads Selections](#) can be found on the Women's National Book Association's website.

About the Women's National Book Association (WNBA): The [Women's National Book Association](#) is a professional literary nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting books, fostering literacy and supporting women in the book world. Formed in 1917 by a group of female booksellers in New York City who were not allowed to join the all-male booksellers' organizations, the WNBA continues to advocate for equality and representation in the book world. The WNBA welcomes members of all genders and professions.