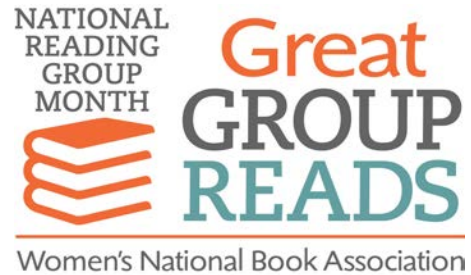


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL BOOK ASSOCIATION**

**National Reading Group Month Announces Great Group Reads 2020 Program**

**NEW YORK – FEBRUARY 1, 2020** – The organizers of National Reading Group Month invite publishers to participate in the Great Group Reads 2020 program. Now in its twelfth year, Great Group Reads is a highly regarded and anticipated resource for book clubs, reading groups, and individual facilitators to choose books – and likewise, for bookstores and libraries to recommend books.

Titles for Great Group Reads are selected on the basis of their appeal to reading groups for whom they are certain to open up lively conversations about an array of timely and provocative topics, from the intimate dynamics of family and personal to major cultural and global issues. The Selection Committee also make a conscious resolve to focus its attention on under-represented books from independent presses and lesser-known mid- list releases from larger houses. All should be books with strong narratives people by fully realized characters; books which perhaps have gone unnoticed by reviewers, bloggers, and reading groups typically overwhelmed by the vast number of new releases each year.

**Preliminary submission guidelines:**

- 1) Genre: literary fiction (novels, novellas, short stories) and memoir, including books in translation published in the U.S. between **October 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020**;
- 2) Submissions: titles for consideration must be submitted by publishers; limited to two titles per publisher or imprint; titles must be readily available through customary distribution channels;
- 3) Format: all eligible, including trade-paper reprints published within the designated time frame; exception: original e-books are ineligible.
- 4) Ineligible: previously submitted titles; previously selected authors; self-published books. The Selection Committee timeline is as follows: reading period will range from February through July; final decision to be made late July; formal announcement will be made to media outlets early-to-mid September. **Submissions must be made on or before Friday, April 17, 2020.**

Publishers are asked to contact **Kristen Knox, Great Group Reads Selection Committee Manager** via email at **kknnox.natlreadinggrpmonth@gmail.com** (subject line tagged: Great Group Reads 2020) with submissions, including suggested titles accompanied by a brief description.

**Great Group Reads 2019 Selections:**

*THE AFFAIRS OF THE FALCÓNS* by Melissa Rivero (Ecco)

*ALL YOU CAN EVER KNOW: A MEMOIR* by Nicole Chung (Catapult)

*THE BOOK WOMAN OF TROUBLESOME CREEK* by Kim Michele Richardson  
(Sourcebooks Landmark)

*DEATH OF A RAINMAKER* by Laurie Loewenstein (Kaylie Jones Books/Akashic Books)

*THE GIRLS AT 17 SWANN STREET* by Yara Zgheib (St. Martin's Press)

*HABEN: THE DEAFBLIND WOMAN WHO CONQUERED HARVARD LAW* by Haben Girma (Twelve)

*THE HONEY BUS: A MEMOIR OF LOSS, COURAGE AND A GIRL SAVED BY BEES* by Meredith May  
(Park Row Books)

*THE LAST YEAR OF THE WAR* by Susan Meissner (Berkley)

*LAURENTIAN DIVIDE* by Sarah Stonich (University of Minnesota Press)

*THE LOST FLOWERS OF ALICE HART* by Holly Ringland (Anansi International)

*LOVE YOU HARD: A MEMOIR OF MARRIAGE, BRAIN INJURY, AND REINVENTING LOVE* by Abby  
Maslin (Dutton)

*MOON OF THE CRUSTED SNOW* by Waubgeshig Rice (ECW Press)

*MRS. EVERYTHING* by Jennifer Weiner (Atria Books)

*NO GOOD ASKING* by Fran Kimmel (ECW Press)

*RETABLOS: STORIES FROM A LIFE LIVED ALONG THE BORDER* by Octavio Solis  
(City Lights Publishers)

*SOUTHERNMOST* by Silas House (Algonquin Books)

*TOMORROW'S BREAD* by Anna Jean Mayhew (Kensington)

*TONIC AND BALM* by Stephanie Allen (Shade Mountain Press)

*THE TUBMAN COMMAND* by Elizabeth Cobbs (Arcade Publishing)

*UNFURLED* by Michelle Bailat-Jones (Ig Publishing)

(Great Group Reads 2019 Selections [www.nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/ggr\\_selections.html](http://www.nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/ggr_selections.html))

**Great Group Reads marketing campaigns** from 2009-2019 have included an array of professionally designed display materials such as shelf-talkers and table-top posters on the National Reading Group Month website for anyone to download and use in promoting Great Group Reads titles. These and other promotional materials are made available to independent bookstores through the ABA Monthly Box Mailing (September). In addition, Great Group Reads authors are extended invitations to participate in nation-wide WNBA 11-chapter National Reading Group Month programming during October.

National Reading Group Month is an initiative of the Women's National Book Association (WNBA). The Women's National Book Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization connecting, educating, advocating, & leading since 1917.

Further information is available at: [NationalReadingGroupMonth.org](http://NationalReadingGroupMonth.org) and [wnba-books.org](http://wnba-books.org).

Press release prepared on February 1, 2020, by Jill A. Tardiff, National Reading Group Month Chair and Kristen W. Knox, Great Group Reads Selection Committee Manager.

Visit National Reading Group Month on Twitter (WNBA\_NRGM) and Facebook.