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NEWS FROM THE WOMEN’S NATIONAL BOOK ASSOCIATION
National Reading Group Month
— Celebrating the joy of shared reading
National Reading Group Month Announces Great Group Reads 2018 Selections

NEW YORK—SEPTEMBER 18, 2018—The National Reading Group Month Great Group Reads Committee has chosen 20 books as this year’s list:

Selections 2018

_America for Beginners_ by Leah Franqui (William Morrow)
_As Wide as the Sky_ by Jessica Pack (Kensington)
_Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance_ by Ruth Emmie Lang (St. Martin’s Press)
_Dear Mrs. Bird_ by AJ Pearce (Scribner)
_The Home for Unwanted Girls_ by Joanna Goodman (Harper Paperbacks)
_A House Among the Trees_ by Julia Glass (Anchor)
_Indian Horse_ by Richard Wagamese (Milkweed Editions)
_In the Distance_ by Hernan Diaz (Coffee House Press)
_In the Shadow of 10,000 Hills_ by Jennifer Haupt (Central Avenue Publishing)
_Invitation to a Bonfire_ by Adrienne Celt (Bloomsbury Publishing)
_The Lido_ by Libby Page (Simon & Schuster)
_Maggie Boylan_ by Michael Henson (Ohio University Press/Swallow Press)
_The Mercy Seat_ by Elizabeth H. Winthrop (Grove Press)
_Plum Rains_ by Andromeda Romano-Lax (Soho Press)
_The Second Mrs. Hockaday_ by Susan Rivers (Algonquin Books)
_Shores Beyond Shores: From Holocaust to Hope, My True Story_ by
Irene H. Butter with John D. Bidwell and Kris Holloway (White River Press)
_Tigerbelle: The Wyomia Tyus Story_ by Wyomia Tyus and Elizabeth Terzakis
(Edge of Sports)
_The Vain Conversation_ by Anthony Grooms (University of South Carolina Press/Story River Books)
_The Widows of Malabar Hill_ by Sujata Massey (Soho Crime)
_Wolf Season_ by Helen Benedict (Bellevue Literary Press)

These titles were selected on the basis of their appeal to reading groups, which seek books that open up lively conversations about a myriad of timely and provocative and diverse topics, from the intimate dynamics of family and personal relationships to major cultural and world issues.
Great Group Reads Selection Committee Chair Kristen Knox says: “Challenging, surprising, life-changing — that is how I would describe this year’s Great Group Reads Selections. A thought-provoking list wherein book clubs and their members will discover an exceptional group of talented authors who are engaged with the issues currently apart of the national conversation. Truly a list for everyone.”

(A full list of Selection Committee members can be found at the National Reading Group Month Web site, www.nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/ggr_committee.html.)

The National Reading Group Month Chair Jill A. Tardiff thanks the Selection Committee for its constancy and thoroughness and all the publishers who submitted titles and made reading copies via traditional galleys and eBook format available. Ms. Tardiff says, “Our goal is to have these outstanding and often inspiring titles become reading-group staples with facilitators and that booksellers and librarians across the country feature them during the month of October, which is, of course, National Reading Group Month—and, throughout the year.” She continues, “For that purpose, we provide a wide 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 these titles. We encourage visiting the site for these and other features and tips.” (See National Reading Group Month Marketing Toolkit at Get Involved www.nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/involved.html).

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The Women’s National Book Association wishes to thank Premier Sponsor of National Reading Group Month: Sourcebooks—An Independent Vision, as well as Friends of National Reading Group Month: American Booksellers Association (ABA), Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction, Baker & Taylor—the future delivered, The Booklist Reader (Booklist, American Library Association), Edelweiss—Above the Treeline, Inc., Ingram Content Group, Net Galley—We Help Books Succeed, Reading Group Choices—Selections for Lively Book Discussions, and Reading Group Guides—The Online Community for Reading Groups.

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National Reading Group Month/Great Group Reads is an initiative of the Women’s National Book Association (WNBA) — Connecting, educating, advocating, & leading since 1917. The WNBA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization promoting reading and supporting the role of women in the community of the book.


Press release prepared on September 18, 2018,
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