New Titles for Fall 2016

As difficult as it is to say goodbye to the summer, I do look forward to the fall book releases. My reserve list is getting longer as I peruse the many websites and blogs dedicated to books. For many of you choosing the next novel to discuss for your book club is a daunting task. Since it may be your decision in the near future, I have included five titles for you to consider for an upcoming book discussion. If you are interested, you may want to place your name on the reserve list when you visit the library. Here are the five titles for your consideration:

Commonwealth by Ann Patchett  Release Date: 9/13/16
A five-decade saga tracing the impact of an act of infidelity on the parents and children of two Southern California families traces their shared summers in Virginia and the disillusionment that shapes their lasting bond.

Here I Am by Jonathan Safran Foer  Release Date: 9/6/16
A tale told over four tumultuous weeks in Washington, D.C., traces the fracturing of a family in crisis when the three sons of Jacob and Julia confront the paradoxes between the lives they think they want and the lives they are living.

Misclling by Affinity Konar  Release Date: 9/6/16
Arriving at Auschwitz in 1944, twin sisters Pearl and Stasha Zagorski take refuge in each other when they become part of the experimental population of twins known as Mengele’s Zoo, where they experience horrors unknown to other inmates.

The Nix by Nathan Hill  Release Date: 8/30/16
Astonished to see the mother who abandoned him in childhood throwing rocks at a president candidate, a bored college professor struggles to reconcile the media depictions of his mother with his memories and decides to draw her out by penning a tell-all biography.

Swing Time by Zadie Smith  Release Date: 11/15/16
Two dark-skinned dancers with very different talents share a complicated childhood friendship that ends abruptly in early adulthood in a story that transitions from northwest London to West Africa.

If your Book Club would like to recommend a book to our readers, please send us an email at Readersservices@syossetlibrary.org and we will share it in a future newsletter.

Readers’ Services has added the following book to our Book Club in a Bag collection: Orhan’s Inheritance by Aline Ohanesian

“Orhan’s Inheritance is a wise, skillful, and deeply affecting story of the personal and political burdens that can never be left behind. From the first lucid incantation of Orhan’s grandmother’s health crisis, to the haunting image of the autobiography written by her captors, to the final, tragic and profound denouement, this novel is a breathtaking tour de force."  — Michael Korda, President, William Morrow & Company

Orhan’s Inheritance follows the story of Orhan’s brilliant and eccentric grandfather, who built a dynasty out of making kilim rugs. When he is found dead in a vat of dye, Orhan inherits the decades-old business. But his grandfather’s will raises more questions than it answers. Kemal has left the family estate to a stranger thousands of miles away, an aging woman in a retirement home in Los Angeles. Her existence and secrecy about her past only deepen the mystery of why Orhan’s grandfather would have left their home to this woman rather than to his own family.

Intent on righting this injustice, Orhan boards a plane to Los Angeles. There, over many meetings, he will unearth the story that eighty-seven-year-old Seda so closely guards—the story that, ...that could unravel Orhan’s own future. (from the publisher)

Let us provide everything you need for a successful book discussion. We can supply you with 10 copies of the book and a discussion binder. The binder contains discussion questions, biographical information and critical material. Please contact Readers’ Services, 921-7161, ext 239 or 241 to reserve a book for your Book Club.

-Evelyn Hershkowitz, Readers’ Services Librarian
Fall 2016 Book To Film Releases

Soon the sights, sounds and aromas of fall will be upon us. Shorter days, cooler nights and falling leaves. While we may be sad to bid summer farewell, fall notably brings forth a slew of new book and movie releases.

Here is a sampling of book to film titles coming to theaters this fall:


After the horror of World War I, Tom Sherbourne welcomes his new job as the lighthouse keeper on Janus Rock, an isolated island with no residents aside from him and his wife Isabel. But times on the island are tough for Isabel as she suffers multiple miscarriages and a stillbirth. When a boat with a dead man and a young baby washes ashore, Isabel convinces Tom to let her keep the baby as their own, but the consequences to her actions may be dire.


A psychological thriller about a woman who becomes emotionally entangled in a murder investigation because of something she witnesses on her daily train commute.


A former athletic star, devoted family man, and entrepreneur finds his life coming apart during the 1960s when his daughter becomes a revolutionary terrorist.


In the heart of Italy, Harvard professor of symbology Robert Langdon is drawn into a harrowing world centered on one of history’s most enduring and mysterious literary masterpieces—Dante’s "Inferno"—as he battles a chilling adversary and grapples with an ingenious riddle.

**Billy Lynn’s Long Halftime Walk** starring Kristen Stewart and Ben Fountain based on the novel by Ben Fountain. Release date: November 11, 2016.

Asked to be part of the Dallas Cowboys’ halftime show on Thanksgiving, Specialist Billy Lynn, one of the eight surviving men of the Bravo Squad, finds his life forever changed by this event that causes him to better understand difficult truths about himself.

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Has this ever happened at one of your book club meetings?

The book that was chosen did not generate a long enough discussion but the group wanted to keep talking about something book related.: keep a list of general book questions on hand for such an occasion. Here are some suggestions:

- What is your favorite book of all time?
- Which was the best book read by the group so far?
- Which book led to the best discussion the group has had?
- Which book has left the most lasting impression on you?
- What books are on your bedside table at the moment?
- Name one book/author that you really can’t stand?
- Where's your favorite place to read?
- Are there any genres that the book club has not read yet but should?

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Lisa Jones, Readers’ Services Librarian

Sonia Grgas, Reference Librarian