The Book Club Insider

Monthly Newsletter

Historical Fiction Novels Coming this Fall

A favorite genre of our patrons is Historical Fiction. This fall there is an abundance of wonderful titles being published. The following titles are the ones that I am looking forward to reading:

**The Tattooist of Auschwitz** by Heather Morris (September 4, 2018)

The #1 International Bestseller This beautiful, illuminating tale of hope and courage is based on interviews that were conducted with Holocaust survivor and Auschwitz-Birkenau tattooist Ludwig (Lale) Sokolov—an unforgettable love story in the midst of atrocity.

**The Mermaid & Mrs. Hancock** by Imogen Hermes Gowar (September 11, 2018)

When one of his trading vessels returns to 18th-century London with the remarkable body of a mermaid, Jonah gains entry into high society and falls in love with a highly accomplished courtesan, with unexpected consequences.

**The Kennedy Debutante** by Kerri Maher (October 2, 2018)

Reimagines the life of rebellious Kathleen "Kick" Kennedy against a backdrop of 1930s London society, where she pursues a forbidden love with the strictly Protestant heir to the Devonshire dukedom.

-Evelyn Hershkowitz, Readers’ Services Librarian

Looking Ahead to October...Trick or Treat

Usually when a book related article talks about the nearness of Halloween, the subject is the Horror genre. This time we are suggesting book “treats” for your book club reading that contain a plot “trick” or two up their sleeves:

**The Secret Keeper** by Kate Morton

Withdrawing from a family party to the solitude of her tree house, sixteen-year-old Laurel Nicolson witnesses a shocking murder that throughout a subsequent half century shapes her beliefs, her acting career, and the lives of three strangers from vastly different cultures.

**We Were Liars** by E. Lockhart

Spending the summers on her family’s private island off the coast of Massachusetts with her cousins and a special boy named Gat, teenaged Cadence struggles to remember what happened during her fifteenth summer.

**The Murder of Roger Ackroyd** by Agatha Christie

A murder in a small English village leads Hercule Poirot into a strange mystery involving a determined, curious spinster, the local doctor, and a wide range of suspects with possible motives and mysterious relationships.

**Fingersmith** by Sarah Waters

Growing up as a foster child among a family of thieves, orphan Sue Trinder hopes to pay back that kindness by playing a key role in a swindle scheme devised by their leader, who is planning to con a fortune out of the naive Maud Lilly.

-Sonia Grgas, Reference Librarian
**Special Meeting Places for Book Clubs**

One of my favorite times of the year is upon us. I love the fall for various reasons and enjoying the weather is definitely high on the list. It is a wonderful time to take advantage of the cooler climate while enjoying nature and its surroundings. What a wonderful opportunity it would be if your group took advantage of our extensive museum pass program here at Syosset and planned a trip to one of the museums to hold your monthly meeting. Here are a few suggestions for places to recharge your book group:

September Highlights at The Brooklyn Botanic Garden: Check out the Sweet Alyssum (**above left**), ‘Pure Poetry’ Floribunda Rose (**above right**), and New England Aster, to name a few of the blooming wonders on display this month.

Enjoy the Georgia O’Keeffe: Visions of Hawaii exhibit now through October 28, 2018 at the New York Botanical Garden. (**left**)

Visit Coe Hall at The Planting Fields Arboretum now through September 30th, 11:30 – 3:30 PM to view the Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney: Sculpture Exhibition, which is included with admission. (**right**)

Please visit the Syosset Public Library’s website to view these and other possible locations as the weather permits. Always check the websites for up-to-date schedule changes and closings. If you have any questions regarding the museum pass program, please see a Readers’ Services Librarian or call 516 921-7161 ext 239.

-Jean Simpson, Readers’ Services Librarian

“From that time on, the world was hers for the reading. She would never be lonely again, never miss the lack of intimate friends. Books became her friends and there was one for every mood. There was poetry for quiet companionship. There was adventure when she tired of quiet hours. There would be love stories when she came into adolescence and when she wanted to feel a closeness to someone she could read a biography. On that day when she first knew she could read, she made a vow to read one book a day as long as she lived.” -Betty Smith, *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*