The Book Club Insider
Monthly Newsletter

Some Great Books to Consider

The final month of Summer is here! I will be sad to see it go, but there is still plenty of time to squeeze in a little reading on the beach or poolside. My advice: take the rest of the summer to relax and read some great books in preparation for your Fall book club meetings. I’ve read some fantastic books this Summer that would make perfect book club choices.

The Storyteller by Jodi Picoult
“Becoming friends with Josef Weber, an old man who is particularly loved in her community, Sage Singer is shocked when one day he asks her to kill him and reveals why he deserves to die, causing her to question her beliefs.”

The Obituary Writer by Ann Hood
“An obituary writer searching for her missing lover at the turn of the twentieth century is linked to a woman considering leaving her loveless marriage in 1963.”

The Light in the Ruins by Chris Bohjalian
“Hoping to safeguard themselves from the ravages of World War II within the walls of their ancient villa in Florence, the noble Rosati family become prisoners in their home when eighteen-year-old Cristina’s courtship by a German lieutenant prompts the Nazis to take over the estate, a situation that leads to a serial murder investigation years later.”

The Snow Hunters by Paul Yoon
“A North Korean war refugee, seeking a new life in a port town on the coast of Brazil, longs to connect with four people who slip in and out of his life, but must confront his traumatic past so he might let go and move on.”

Me Before You by Jojo Moyes
“Taking a job as an assistant to extreme sports enthusiast Will, who is wheelchair bound after a motorcycle accident, Louisa struggles with her employer’s acerbic moods and learns of his shocking plans before demonstrating to him that life is still worth living.”

Be sure to save these choices for the Fall and Winter – they are new books and we want to make sure we can get your group enough copies. Enjoy …

All summaries are from the publishers.

-Jackie Ranaldo, Head of Readers’ Services
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The Man Booker Prize

The longlist for the Man Booker Prize was announced on July 23, 2013. The following books are on the longlist:

- Tash Aw - Five Star Billionaire
- NoViolet Bulawayo - We Need New Names
- Eleanor Catton - The Luminaries
- Jim Crace - Harvest
- Eve Harris - The Marrying of Chani Kaufman
- Richard House - The Kills
- Jhumpa Lahiri - The Lowland
- Alison MacLeod - Unexploded
- Colum McCann - TransAtlantic
- Charlotte Mendelson - Almost English
- Ruth Ozeki - A Tale for the Time Being
- Donal Ryan - The Spinning Heart
- Colm Tóibín - The Testament of Mary

Syosset Public Library owns the following books from the list: Five Star Billionaire, We Need New Names, Harvest, TransAtlantic, A Tale for the Time Being and The Testament of Mary. As the books are published in the United States we will add them to our collection. The Lowland by Jhumpa Lahiri will be published in September.

And the Winner Is...

The shortlist will be announced on September 19, 2013 and the winner will be announced in October. For more information on the Man Booker Prize visit www.themanbookerprize.com.

Read the book...See the Movie

If your Book Club is looking for an activity to tie in with one of your discussions, why not try reading a book and then going out to see the movie adaptation? Here are some films to be released in October that are based on books:

Serena by Ron Rash Traveling to the mountains of 1929 North Carolina to forge a timber business with her new husband, Serena Pemberton champions her mastery of harsh natural and working conditions but turns murderous when she learns she cannot bear children. Starring Jennifer Lawrence and Bradley Cooper.

Horns by Joe Hill After his childhood sweetheart is brutally killed and suspicion falls on him, Ig Parrish goes on a drinking binge and wakes up with horns on his head, hate in his heart, and an incredible new power which he uses in the name of vengeance. Starring Daniel Radcliffe and Juno Temple.

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens A young orphan, Pip, receives a fortune from a mysterious benefactor and travels to London in order to become a gentleman. Starring Helena Bonham Carter and Ralph Fiennes.

Carrie by Stephen King An introverted girl with remarkable powers of telekinesis faces the horrors of teenage life and unleashes a few horrors of her own when she attends the high school prom. Starring Julianne Moore.

As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner The story revolves around a grim yet darkly humorous pilgrimage, as Addie Bundren’s family sets out to fulfill her last wish: to be buried in her native Jefferson, Mississippi, far from the miserable backwater surroundings of her married life. Starring James Franco (also directing) and Danny McBride.

- Sonia Grgas, Readers’ Services Librarian

“Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another’s skin, another’s voice, another’s soul.”
— Joyce Carol Oates